

1 - Series Introduction

Good morning friends.

I've been thinking lately about this space that we gather in to worship. Do you spend time in any other spaces that look like this? What makes this space different or unique? *Give the kids time to respond. Affirm their ideas.* Over the next few weeks, we're going to use this children's message time to talk about our sanctuary, which is the place that we come to worship. We're going to talk about all the different things that are here and learn some about why the space we worship in is set up the way it is.

Before we go any farther, for today let's just talk about the word "worship." Worship is why this room and this space exists – we come here to worship God. What does "worship" mean? *Give kids time to respond. Affirm their answers.* Well, we could begin with the fact that God is amazing, and so, so very special, more special than anything else in the universe. And when we believe that, our hearts lead us to worship, when we can spend time focusing 100% on God and resting in God's presence. And that's what this room is designed for. When we walk in, our souls can go, "Phew. It's God time now."

Now – really important - is this room the only space where we can worship God? *Give kids time to respond.* Absolutely not! We can worship God anywhere! During the pandemic many of you worshiped from home. And we all found lots of other ways to worship God, like through music or telling stories or being in nature. There are so many ways that we can worship, and I'm excited for us to explore together how this space helps us do that.

Will you repeat after me as we pray?

Loving God,

You are so amazing

And we love worshiping you.

Fill our hearts

with your love and peace.

Amen.

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