

Additional Family Resource for

SOLEMN ASSEMBLY



**SHERWOOD PARK
ALLIANCE CHURCH**

KIDS MINISTRIES

INTRODUCTION

This week is Solemn Assembly; a week in January when we as a church family pray first. It's about taking the time to listen to God's voice, ponder His thoughts, and talk with Him.

As disciples of Jesus we want to know Him better and love Him more. By fixing our eyes on Jesus, we are reminded that He is everything we need. We get to know more about Jesus by reading about Him in the Bible. We learn about what He did and what He said. We also discover that He had many different names - these names give us lots of information about what He is like. Each day this week we will focus on one of Jesus' names. As we learn more about what Jesus was like, we will learn what it means to be His disciples, His followers, and to shine His light and love everywhere we go - at school, on our sports teams, in our homes, and in our communities, and even to places all over the world!

Those who know your name trust in you.
Psalm 9:10

A PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus, I give this week of prayer to You. Sometimes I get too busy with all kinds of things. This week, would you help me to fix my eyes on You. Through all Your different names, Jesus, show me who You are, and who I am as your follower. I pray I would experience your love, your presence, and your thoughts as I listen and learn. I pray this in the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

DAY 1
ALPHA AND OMEGA

DAY 2
BREAD OF LIFE

DAY 3
RABBONI

DAY 4
MORNING STAR

DAY 5
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DAY 6
KING OF KINGS

DAY 1

ALPHA AND OMEGA

Jesus is the beginning and the end - the **Alpha and Omega**.
He has always existed and always will - He is in control of all things!



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read Revelation 22:13 (NIV) out loud.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

I’m sure you know the alphabet very well and can say the whole thing, especially if you sing it! Can you sing it now? There are 27 letters in the alphabet – the first letter is A and the last letter is Z. The first and last letters in the English alphabet are the same as the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet – A for Alpha and Ω for Omega instead of Z. Jesus is the A to Z, the **Alpha and Omega**, the beginning to ending! The bible says that “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1). This means that God existed before the beginning!

The bible also tells us that God created the whole universe by speaking! He sees all things, knows all things, and rules over all things. Nothing surprises God! What’s even more amazing is that Jesus promised that when you follow Him He’s working every single circumstance, no matter how difficult, to bring good into your life and into the world around you (Romans 8:28). He’s the Alpha – the First One that we can talk to in the morning and the First One that we can go to when we’re having a tough time. He is the Omega - the Last One we can talk to at night. Jesus is our beginning to ending, the **Alpha and Omega** – He has always existed, and He is in control of all things!



MY LIFE TIMELINE

**Jesus is the beginning and the end -
He has always existed and always will!**

Make a timeline of your life. Write years or dates if you'd like you. On one end of the timeline put the day you were born. On the timeline write down (or draw) all of the in-between events: when you made friends, when you started an afterschool activity, when you went on a holiday etc.

Jesus knows everything that has happened in your life and everything that will happen! He is working every single circumstance to bring good into your life and into the world around you, no matter how difficult things may seem - He is in control of everything!

*Dear Jesus, Our **Alpha & Omega**, help us understand that you are the **Beginning and the End** - you have always existed and you always will! Thank you that you are in control of everything. Help us to trust you and put you first in all we think, do, and say. Amen.*

DAY 2:

BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus is the giver of everything we need - He is the Bread of Life.



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read John 6:35 (NIV) out loud.

“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to me will never go hungry and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.’”

Have you ever seen an ad on TV or on YouTube and thought, “If I only had that game” or “if mom and dad bought me that toy, then I would be happy with the games and toys that I have.” It’s tempting to think that way isn’t it?

The Bible tells us that after Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit led him into the desert where He didn’t eat for 40 days! He was SO hungry! The enemy tempted Jesus by telling Him to turn rocks into bread- Jesus is God after all! Jesus said NO to the easy way out! He waited for His Father God to provide exactly what He needed.

In Jesus’ day, bread was the main part of the meal. Almost everyone had the ingredients to make bread – meat was just the side dish. Bread was the food that filled people’s bellies and kept them alive. Our bodies need food to work properly and stay healthy.

There is a different kind of hunger that only Jesus can fill. When Jesus says He is the Bread of Life, He is saying that He is most important part of life. We need Jesus more than we need anything else in the world – even more than food! We need Jesus to be with us and guide us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to fill so much more than our basic needs.

When we live life with Jesus, He promises to provide for our needs throughout our whole journey through life with Him. When we spend time reading the bible, worshipping, and talking to Jesus, we are filled with everything we could ever need; peace, joy, love, and hope. All we need comes from Jesus - we can trust Him to be our Bread of Life. Jesus gives us the gift of His presence (He is always with us), His guidance, and He gives us access to His power through the Holy Spirit. And the best part? Life with Jesus forever is a free gift! When we put our trust in Jesus, He will always lead us to God's best.



We all need food to fill our bellies, but we also need our spiritual hunger for Jesus to be filled. Ask your mom and dad to help you pick out a couple of non-perishable food items from your pantry (don't forget to check the expiry date!). Before you take these items to a food bank drop off station, take a minute and pray over these food items.

*Dear Jesus, I pray for the person who gets this food. I don't know them, but you know everything about them - you know exactly what they need. God, I pray that this food would fill their hunger and give them what they need to be healthy. I pray that they would know that You, Jesus, are the **Bread of Life**. That only you can fill their need for peace, joy, love and hope. You are everything that they need. In Your Name. Amen.*

DAY 3:

RABBONI

Jesus is our greatest teacher -our Rabboni - He's the wisest one we know!



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read John 20:16 out loud.

*“Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “**Rabboni!**” (which means “Teacher”).”*

Teachers are special people who play an important part in our lives. Who is your favorite teacher? Maybe it's your homeroom teacher, your piano teacher, your hockey coach, or your Sunday School teacher. What makes them your favorite teacher? Great teachers don't teach you the things you need to know, but they believe that you can learn what they're teaching you and that you were created to do great things!

Jesus is often called **Rabboni** in the New Testament. **Rabboni** is a very respectful name used for someone who doesn't just simply know what the Bible says, but someone who puts it in to action! Jesus loved all different kinds of people, and He put that love into action.

Jesus knows who He created you to be! He says, “Come follow me” (Matthew 4:19) and invites you to learn from Him as His disciple. To be Jesus' disciple means that you learn from Him, learn to serve others like He does, and you point people to Him by worshipping Him, serving Him, and telling others the Good News about Him!

Jesus is the greatest teacher – our Rabbi. He’s the wisest one we know! He will show us what to do in every circumstance. The bible says “If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and He will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking” (James 1:5). We can remember to always pray first and go to Jesus for wisdom. So, pause for just a minute. Listen and watch. Be patient. Keep asking. You’ll know it’s Jesus when you hear Him. His loving answer will bring you peace. Jesus always hears us - He is our **Rabboni** - He will show us the way to go.



PRAYER ACTIVITY:

On Post-it notes, write down phrases that will remind you of Jesus’s wisdom - He will show you what to do! Here are some ideas “Need wisdom?”, “Ask Jesus!”, “Pray First”, “Keep Asking!”. I’m sure you can think of many more. Stick these reminders in places that you will see them often - on your bathroom mirror, in the car, above your bed, on the pantry door, etc. When you see them read them out loud - remind yourself that you can ask Jesus for wisdom any time you need it. He is your Rabbi- the best teacher in the whole world! When you see these reminders, talk to Jesus! He’ll show you the way to go.

*Dear Jesus, thank You that you are the greatest teacher and the wisest one we know - our **Rabboni**! Jesus, I need your wisdom for (your problem or decision). Thank you that you always listen. Please remind me that I can pause and listen for Your voice. When I ask for wisdom you will always show me what to do. Amen.*



DAY 4:

MORNING STAR

Jesus is our Bright Morning Star - He came to bring light into the darkness - He is our hope!



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read Revelation 22:16 out loud.

“I Jesus...I am the Root and Offspring of David and the Bright Morning Star...”

Have you ever driven out into the country at nighttime when everything is dark, but the stars shine so bright in the sky? There are so many stars, it would be hard to count them all!

A long time ago, the morning star was a powerful sign. We now know that that star was the planet Venus. What time of day do stars shine? Well this star shone brightly when nighttime was not over yet - it was like a promise that daytime would come. When day time finally came the sun would shine so brightly that the darkness of the night didn't stand a chance!

Jesus is our **Bright Morning Star**. Jesus is not star that we wish on. He is a star of hope - our hope for what we don't see yet. The world we live in has sadness and pain and confusion, but Jesus is our hope. Jesus came to bring light into the darkness. We can put our trust in Him? Jesus keeps His promises - He has promised that one day, He will come back and get rid of all darkness - there will be no more sadness, pain, and confusion, but instead our **Bright Morning Star**, Jesus, will shine so brightly and chase away all of the darkness.

As Jesus' disciples, when we fix our eyes on Jesus, we "will shine like stars in the sky" with His hope and joy for all the world to see. When you pray, tell the truth, worship Jesus, listen well when others are talking, read your bible, help out at home or in the community without expecting a thank you, Jesus' hope as our **Bright Morning Star** shines through you!



PRAYER ACTIVITY

Find a dark place in your house - maybe the bathroom or a closet in the basement. Bring a flashlight (or a two if you are doing this activity with a buddy) with you, but don't turn it on yet! Bring your mom or dad, or maybe your brother or sister if you don't want to be in the dark alone. Once it is completely dark, switch on your flashlights! In a world that is dark and lost, Jesus is the light that shines so brightly - He is our **Bright Morning Star!**

*Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to bring light into the darkness - You are our **Bright Morning Star!** Thank You that when I put my trust in You, I can shine Your light of hope for all the world to see. Jesus, thank you for being my hope as I wait for You to come back one day soon. Amen.*

DAY 5:

SERVANT

Jesus is a Servant - He is the best example of how to serve others.



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read Matthew 20:28 out loud.

“Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served. But to serve, and to give my life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus said, the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life to set many others free. Jesus set people free from sickness, sadness, and darkness. He served everyone he met - the rich, the poor, the strong, the weak, and even people who were really difficult to love! Jesus served even when He was tired or hungry! He even served by healing one of the soldiers who came to arrest Him! Jesus didn't focus on Himself. He was always thinking about what others needed. Jesus not only loved people- He put that love into action!

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born, there was a prophecy written about Him. A prophecy is a message from God about something that is going to happen in the future - people called prophets wrote these messages down. This message said that Jesus depended on His Father's strength, was deeply loved by His Father, and was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

As Jesus' disciples, we're called to serve with Jesus. When we put our trust in Him, we have access to the Father's strength, are deeply loved by the Father, and are filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, just like Jesus. Jesus gives us everything we need to think of and take care of others before we think about ourselves. Having a heart like Jesus, the heart of a servant, is hard! Have you ever gotten a brand new video game or toy that you wanted to play right away, but your brother or sister got the first turn? Have you ever shared a dessert with a friend, and they got the bigger piece that you wanted? Putting others first is hard sometimes, but just like Jesus, God gives us everything that we need to focus on others and have a servant heart.

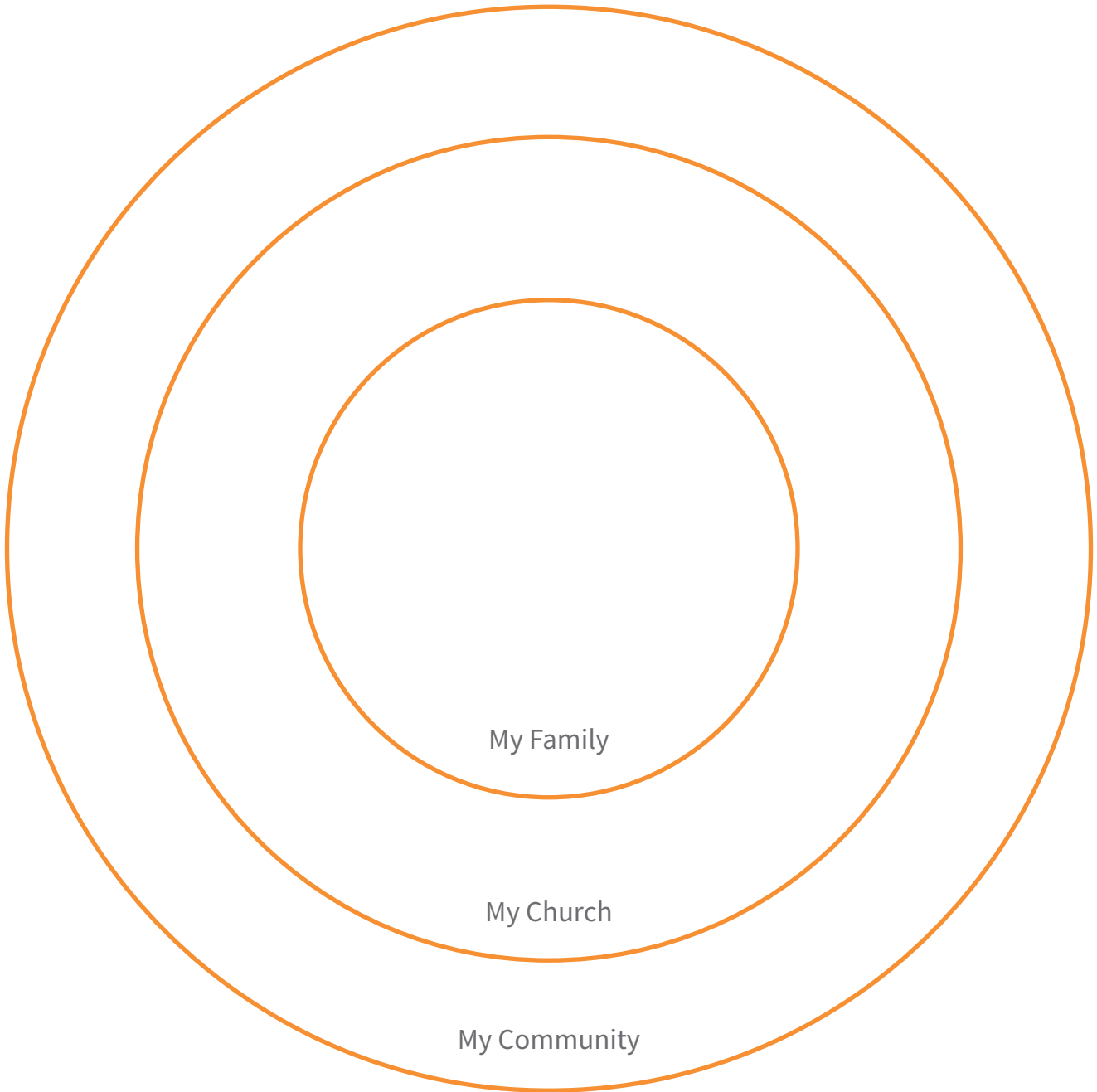


PRAYER ACTIVITY

Think of creative ways that you can have a servant heart this week. Brainstorm ways that you can serve your family, your church, and your community. We talked about how hard it is to give up something you want, like the biggest piece or the first turn. What other ways can you think of to have a servant heart? On the next page, write your ideas in the circles: “My Family”, “My Church”, and “My Community”. Then put your ideas into action!



PRAYER ACTIVITY CONTINUED



Dear Jesus, thank You for being the perfect example of how to serve others. Please help me have a servant heart and understand what it looks like to think of and take care of others first. Thank You for giving me everything I need to have a servant heart. Amen.

DAY 6:

KING OF KINGS

Jesus is the one true King - He is the **KING OF KINGS**, the loving ruler of the whole world forever!



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

Read Revelation 19:16 out loud.

*“On His robe and on His thigh, He had this name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**”*

Who is the greatest king of all time? Do you know who the greatest king in the whole bible is? (Solomon)

It is easy to forget that Jesus is the King! There are lots of powerful, well known kings and rulers on earth, but there is someone greater than them all. Jesus! There is no ruler or king greater than Jesus. HE is the only King. All nations and leaders will bow down to Him one day. Jesus is in charge of this world - only Jesus! A king is the person in charge of a kingdom or country. He makes the rules and laws, and his job is to take care of the people in his kingdom. The Bible is full of good kings and bad kings, but Jesus is the only perfect King.

Jesus talked a lot about kingdoms. His kingdom was going to be so incredibly different from anything this world had ever seen before. The Kingdom Jesus rules is the Kingdom of God. In this special Kingdom there is no fighting, no name calling, no poverty, no hurting. Instead there is peace, respect, joy, kindness, and giving. There is no sadness, no sickness, no death. In His Kingdom there is only life, light, and love. This is the Kingdom we get to be a part of when Jesus comes back again.

What's amazing is that Jesus gives us access to the power of His Kingdom now here on earth, and invites us all to be a part of it! As His disciples we get to show the world how wonderful life is in His Kingdom! In a world where we face difficult circumstances, we get to shine Jesus' love for all to see! He is the King of Kings - He is our loving ruler forever!



PRAYER ACTIVITY

Time to get creative! What do you think the Kingdom of God looks like? Jesus' Kingdom is a Kingdom with no fighting, no sadness, no hurting - only peace, respect, joy, kindness and giving. Draw a picture on the next page of what you think the Kingdom of God looks like, with Jesus as the King of Kings! Jesus will rule the world with love forever and ever!

*Dear Jesus, thank you that you are the King of Kings - the one true King of the world. Thank you that because of you, Jesus, we can show the world how wonderful life is in Your Kingdom here on earth and shine your love for all to see. Thank you Jesus for the hope we have knowing that you are coming back, and that you will be our loving ruler, our **King of Kings**, forever! Amen.*

KINGDOM OF GOD

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SHERWOOD PARK
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spac.ca | 780.467.8404
1011 Clover Bar Rd, Sherwood Park

