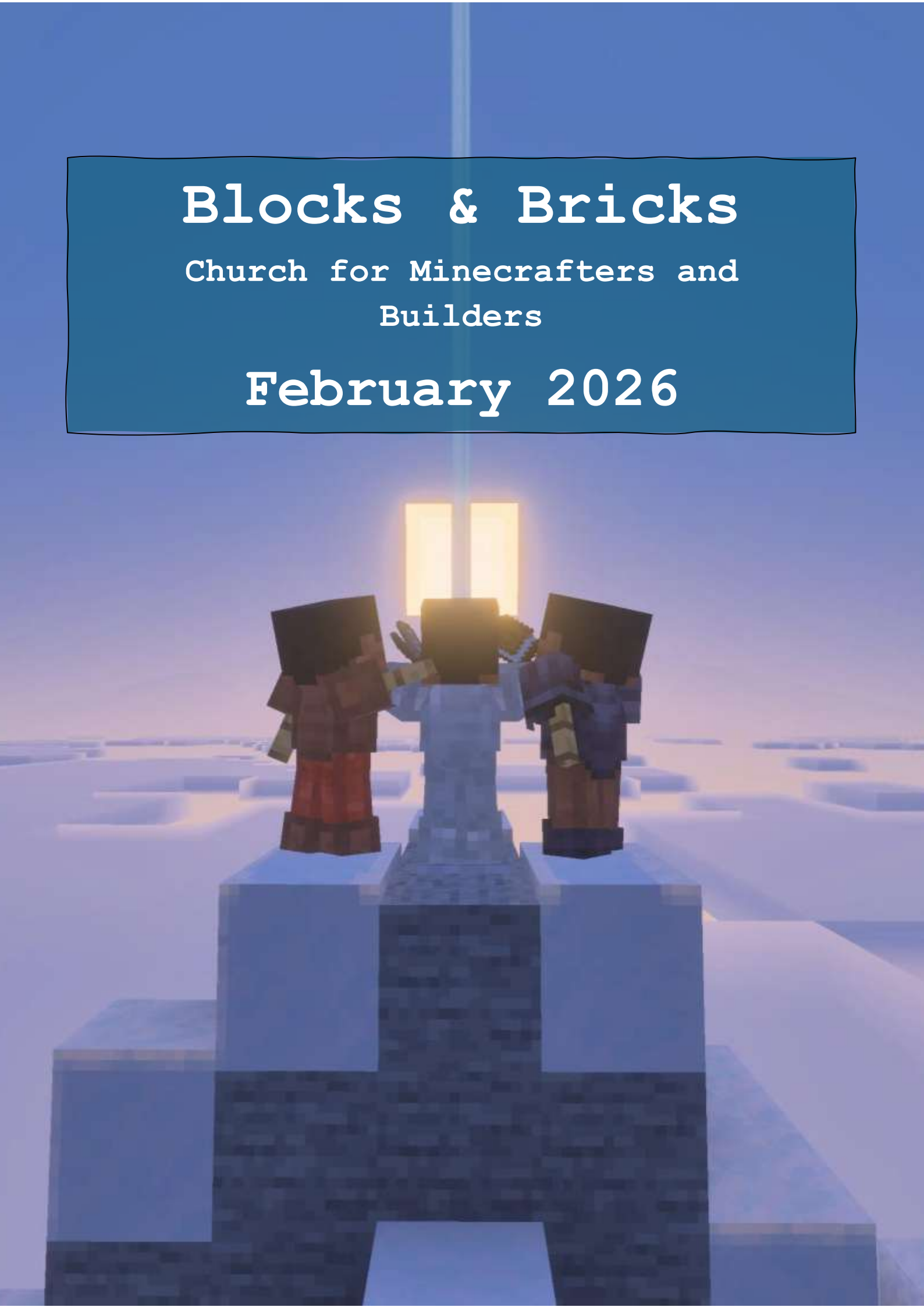
Blocks & Bricks

Church for Minecrafters and Builders

February 2026



GUIDE FOR LEADERS

- "Blocks" activities are for Minecrafters. "Bricks" are alternative activities for Lego, junk modelling etc. – a Plan B in case of a technology fail, or for children who prefers crafts
- Use at home or in church during worship.
- Minecrafters can stay in church while quietly creating in Minecraft or go out in a separate group.
- Minecrafters ("Blocks") and builders ("Bricks") share what they have been working on at the end of the service.
- Technical guidelines at the end of this booklet give hints for getting started.
- Scan QR code for an online version of this booklet with clickable links.

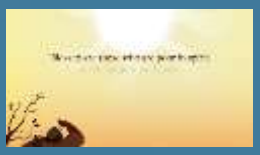
GUIDE FOR MINECRAFTERS AND BUILDERS

- Read, listen to or watch the story first. Use headphones if watching in church!
- Minecrafters:
    - create a world using the suggested Bedrock seed. Use Creative Mode and Peaceful, unless it says otherwise.
    - If sharing a world with others, be kind! No griefing!!
- Builders: Choose a craft (e.g. Lego, junk modelling, playdough)
- Read the suggested activities and get inspired!
- If in church, pay attention to what is going on around you:
    - Singing? Bop about!
    - Praying? Pray too!
- After the service, share your thoughts with everyone you can!

WEEK ONE - THE STORY (4th after Epiphany)

Matthew 5: 1-12

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poV1w0ZZIWw



BLOCKS SEED: 9066

Jesus turns our expectations upside down in this passage. People normally expect success, wealth, victory in battle etc. to be celebrated, but Jesus highlights completely different circumstances.

Can you build something upside down?

As a further challenge, can you build it with a perfect mirror image?

This could be a house, with the pointy roof at the bottom and the door at the top, or a tree with the leaves at the bottom and the trunk pointing up in the air.

Take a screenshot and turn it the right way up. How well have you done?

BRICKS

Build something with Lego or junk modelling, or draw a picture. It could be something to reflect success, such as a house or car.

Place it on a mirror. Do you notice anything different about it when it is upside down?

Could you build or draw a mirror image of your creation? Is there anything you would have to do differently?

PRAYER

Sometimes it is hard to see people being rewarded in the world even though they have made bad choices, and it can be even harder to see good people suffering. Jesus' good news is that God's kingdom, with its new upside-down way of doing things, is coming.

Pray for God's way of doing things to come, and for help to follow his way, even when the world doesn't reward it.

WEEK TWO - THE STORY (5th after Epiphany)

Matthew 5:13-20

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW8buROFwFs



BLOCKS SEED: 4011

Salt stops things turning bad. Light chases dark things away.

Can you build an enormous light that can shine on as much of the Minecraft world as possible, even the darkest places?

You could use Redstone to create a chain of fireworks to light up the whole world.

If there are several players, you could spread out just within view distance of each other, so you can create a chain of beacons.

Or you can place torches or any other sources of light all over the world.

Switch to survival - do your lights keep all the bad things away?

BRICKS

Carefully push a (switched on) battery-powered tealight into a blue balloon and inflate it.

Draw or stick the countries of the world onto the balloon to create an illuminated globe. Alternatively, write concerns about the world on the balloon, so they can be illuminated.

Alternatively, build a globe out of lego or junk modelling, and place a light inside it.

PRAYER

We need to stop ourselves from "going bad" by choosing not to follow the world's priorities, and we need to turn ourselves into a means of showing others the way to God. Luckily we have Jesus to help us!

Pray for Jesus' help to show us where and how we can bring our salt and light to the world right now, through following him.

WEEK 3 - THE STORY (Transfiguration)

Matthew 17: 1-9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfT5mInsr9A



BLOCKS SEED: 200

Use spider webs to build a cloud-like maze around the top of a mountain (mountains are west).

At the top of the mountain, surrounded by the "cloud" maze, put Jesus in the middle, with Moses on one side and Elijah on the other.

Moses is famous for the Ten Commandments. Can you give him a book with the Ten Commandments inside? Elijah is a prophet – a proclaimer of the will of God. Can you build him a loudspeaker or trumpet?

Make a sign coming from the cloud with the words of God on it: "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased—listen to him!"

BRICKS

Use junk modelling to build a mountain surrounded in cloud!

Cut one side from a small cardboard box so that it is like a theatre. Use a yoghurt pot to make a mountain on the base and cover the walls and top with cotton wool as a cloud. If you have fairy lights, stick these over the cloud.

Put figures to represent Jesus, Elijah and Moses on the mountain.

PRAYER

Jesus is the fulfilment of the law and the prophets of the Old Testament and God is pleased with him! It is right to follow Jesus, even though his journey takes him to a very different hill at Easter, with two different figures beside him.

Pray for God to be with you whether you are feeling on top of the world or down in the very depths.

WEEK 4 - THE STORY (1st in Lent)

Matthew 4: 1-11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mc-x4qKY6Wc



BLOCKS SEED: 968

Build a path to some treasure, with some arrows pointing the right way.

Now build some things to try to tempt, or lure people away from the path. Maybe the path could fork to some healing potions, a treasure chest or a building that looks really exciting to explore. Or maybe there could be something quirky or unusual, like some dancing parrots.

Now set a trap for anyone who gets lured away from the path. Maybe some TNT could explode, or the path could give way.

Ask someone to follow your path. Do they reach the treasure, or do your distractions get in the way?

BRICKS

If there are several people, you could play a parlour game, such as asking someone to count all the Lego pieces in a box, while the others try to distract them. How can we keep focused?

Alternatively, build a maze with a reward at the end. At every fork put a dilemma, e.g. I find a bank note. Turn left to keep it, turn right to hand it to police. The "right" choices should lead to the treasure.

PRAYER

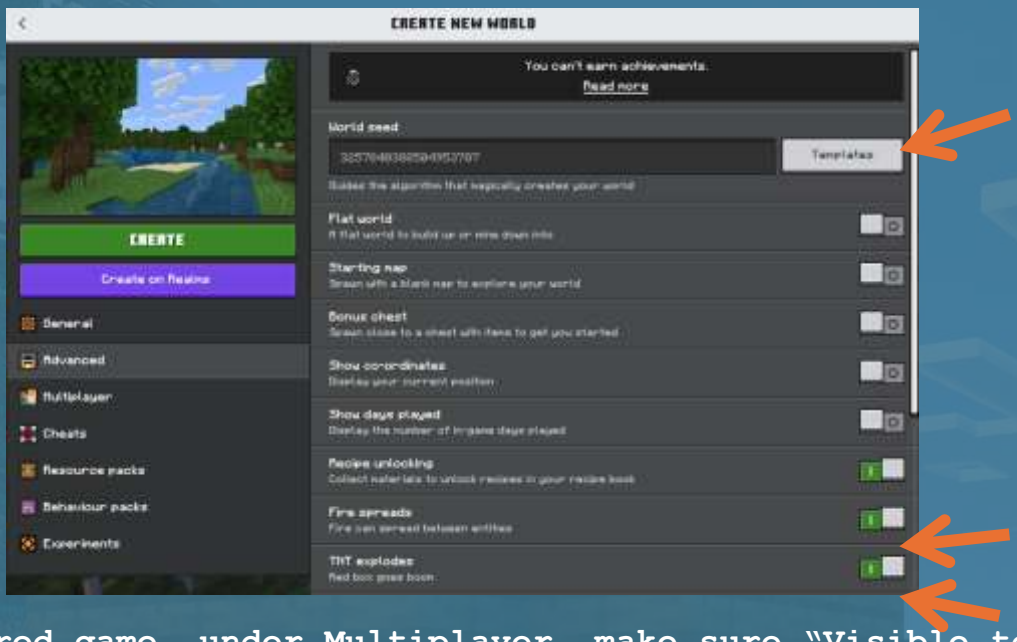
It is very easy to get distracted from following God's way. Every day is full of distractions! The answer isn't to feel guilty about it, as that takes our focus away from God. When you notice you've been distracted, just return to the path and keep going!

Pray for God to help you keep your focus on his path, and for him to show you the way back whenever you get distracted!

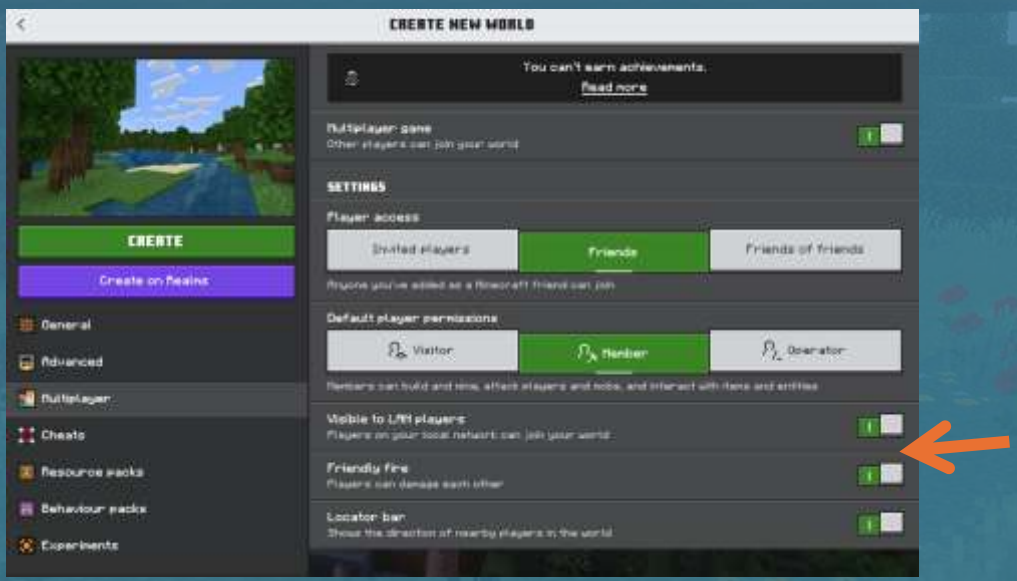
HOW TO CREATE A WORLD WITH A SEED

First, on the "General" tab set the world to Creative and Peaceful (unless instructions say otherwise).

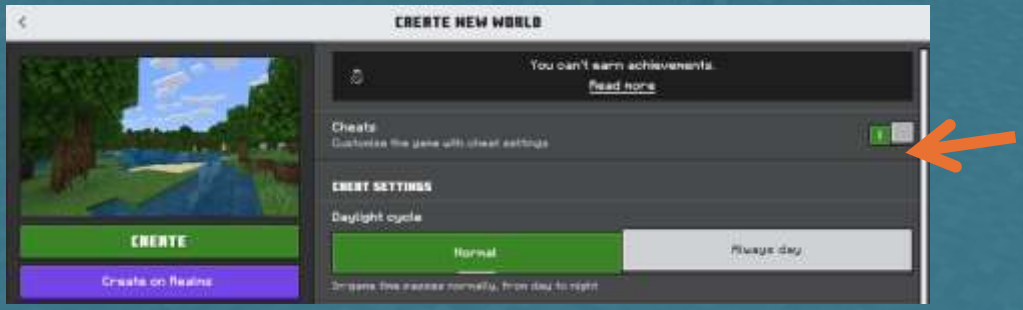
On the "Advanced" tab, enter the seed. It might also be a good idea to switch off "TNT explodes" and "Fire spreads":



For a shared game, under Multiplayer, make sure "Visible to LAN players" is switched on:



Finally, under "Cheats", switch the top option to on:



TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

You will need:

- Minecraft installed on a phone, tablet or laptop.
- No internet connection. These activities have been designed to work offline.

Sharing worlds (optional - internet required):

- Up to six devices can join the same Minecraft world
  - World must be visible on the LAN (local area network). Minecrafters will know how to do this!
  - Nintendo Switch devices will only be able to see each other, unless they have an extra subscription, so may need their own group.
  - Needs supervision (as may be disputes if work is damaged, or something hurtful is put in the chat).
  - Consider disabling the chat.
  - Very young children and beginners should avoid shared worlds in case of accidental damage.
- For more than six devices, you can either split the Minecrafters into multiple groups, with a shared world for each group, or you can run a Minecraft Server. Contact minecraft@kidlingtonmethodists.org.uk for more information on Minecraft servers.
- Neither option publishes anything to the wider internet. They are only visible to devices on the same network.

Sharing builds:

- It is important to view, discuss and share the Minecrafters' work after the service.
  - Look at the builds on the Minecrafters' devices and ask them what they have built and why.
  - Encourage them to take screenshots of their work.
  - Send screenshots to minecraft@kidlingtonmethodists.org.uk to go on our gallery.
  - Even better - display them on a projector screen in your own church after the service for everyone to see!

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