

Blocks & Bricks

Church for Minecrafters and Builders

March 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 craf
- 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 (2nd in Lent)

John 3:1-17

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsFENV4zn1g



BLOCKS SEED: 9066

One way of understanding this story is to think of being born of water as making a decision to follow Jesus and then trusting the spirit of God to guide you on that path.

Have a look around the Minecraft world and decide on a destination. Commit to that destination by building a big arrow to it out of water blocks.

As you walk towards it, build prayer stations along the way: label the fruit on an apple tree with your requests, place a picture to look at, put a bow/arrow and target with a noticeboard listing injustices you are angry about, place fireworks and praise God as you let them off, grow some food and thank God for it …

BRICKS

If you have a compass (many phones have them) draw yourself a map on a large piece of paper, with you in one corner and heaven in another.

Write directions (go north-east) to guide you from place to place. At each place, write, draw or build a message to God. This could be anger at injustice, thanks, praise or requests for help. Make sure your path takes you to heaven, as the spirit surely will!

PRAYER

People have many different experiences of coming to know God. If you decide to follow Jesus and are open to the spirit to help you *even if you make mistakes on the way* then Jesus has promised eternal life. This is amazing!

If you think you want to make a decision to follow Jesus, talk to someone in your church about it. It'll be the start of an exciting journey!

Take a moment, look at your build and wherever you are on that journey, just ask for God to guide you in what comes next.

WEEK TWO - THE STORY (3rd in Lent)

John 4: 5-42

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z8HBbOIXLD8



BLOCKS SEED:13579

Build a well in the desert and plant a farm around it. Minecraft wells never run out of water. Jesus promises something similar but is he talking about water?

Later on in John's gospel it is explained that he means God's Spirit. Can you make your well look like "living water" – maybe make it a fountain or fill it with glowing creatures or lights.

Jesus gives this promise of living water to an unlikely person – Jews and Samaritans did not usually get on. Can you put two surprising figures next to the well? Jesus and a zombie or spider, or two supporters of opposing football teams? God's promise is for everyone!

BRICKS

If you have a small solar-powered water feature, bring it along. With sunshine, the water keeps flowing for ever! If you don't have one, build a "well" out of junk modelling, lego, or clay and fill with water or blue paper.

Think of someone who might be an outcast: someone who supports the wrong team, has the wrong political views, has too much or too little money. Put a model representing them at the well next to Jesus.

PRAYER

Water is a blessing that brings life. Living water from God is also essential. It is part of being "born of the spirit" that we heard about last week. God gives his spirit to everyone.

Say thank you to God for his gift of living water. Is there someone surprising you could be especially kind to this week?

WEEK 3 - THE STORY (4th in Lent)

John 9: 1-41

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4gZ2KSbdxI



BLOCKS SEED: 968

Build a figure of Jesus clearly pointing ahead. Start by making your Minecraft character blind, with a potion or pumpkin head. Can you see Jesus? Reset so you can see. Now try a nausea potion. How easy is it to see and follow Jesus? This is a bit like the pharisees, who are sick with fear. Once you recover from the nausea, try a "go slow" potion. How easy is it to follow Jesus? This is a bit like the parents, who can maybe see Jesus, but are held back by worry. Once recovered, get a spyglass so you can see really clearly! Jesus' gift is that he helps us see the way to God!

If time, try the Bricks activity using blocks in Minecraft, or build something that looks different from different perspectives.

BRICKS

Write the word "LOVE" in big block letters on a piece of card.

Cut out the letters, and then cut each letter in half down the middle. Tape a cocktail stick to each letter half, and use sticky tack to stand the letters up.

Now move each right-hand half a couple of inches back. Walk around the letters. They will look a jumble until you get to the right perspective.

Decorate the letters!

PRAYER

Sometimes it is hard to know what is true and which choice is right. The blind man came to see clearly that Jesus was the Messiah and the right choice was to follow him. How did he know? Because what Jesus said and did was in line with scripture and everything we know about God. The pharisees had a different perspective, and the parents were too scared to follow.

Pray to be able to see Jesus clearly, and to be brave enough to follow him.

WEEK 4 - THE STORY (5th in Lent)

John 11: 1-45

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dca8SSxXCmM



BLOCKS SEED: 563

Start off in creative but be prepared to move to survival later.

Set up a dangerous rescue mission. To be similar to the story, you could shut a Zombie villager into a cave inside a cavern with cave spiders (travel north-east to find a cave system). Leave a healing potion outside to help in your rescue mission. However, any dangerous rescue will do!

Once you have set the scene, leave the area and go above ground. Switch to survival, but before diving straight in, take five or ten minutes to prepare. Calm yourself by finding some beautiful views, start farming or follow an animal around the world. Now launch your rescue!

BRICKS

Create a rescue. You could hide an object in a perilous situation (e.g. a toy about to fall into a sink) and challenge others to find and rescue it. If you are on your own, create an obstacle course or other challenge (lego fortress?).

Once the challenge is set up and everyone is raring to go – don't go. Take five minutes to do something contemplative, like colouring, then go for it!

PRAYER

Sometimes we see a situation of injustice or pain and we want to charge straight in to put it right. But the harder the situation, the more we need to listen to God.

Pray for the wisdom to listen before acting. Make time to do something restful, such as colouring, art or exercise, and use it to listen to what God might be saying.

WEEK 5 - THE STORY (Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday)

Matthew 21: 1-11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE



BLOCKS SEED: 1738801

Try to build the scene of Jesus travelling towards Jerusalem. Build a city wall to represent Jerusalem with a road going towards it. Create crowds with lots of villagers. Use lots of different colours on the road to represent the cloaks. Is there anything that could look like palm branches waving?

If fireworks had been invented, they would probably have been used in celebration. Pretend to be Jesus and ride on a horse or other animal. Using red stone, can you make fireworks go off as Jesus (you) rides towards Jerusalem? The crowd would have been noisy. Can you add some sound or music to the celebration?

BRICKS

Use a doll's house or build a model house from junk modelling or Lego and then make decorations for an extravagant welcome home party. There should be colourful streamers, a banner on the door, party poppers, lights (a phone torch shining through some coloured tissue paper on a spinner can create a party vibe). Add some dancing figures, and put some music on while you play with the scene!

PRAYER

There's a viral meme of a man proposing to his girlfriend. There is a build-up, excitement - then fury from the girlfriend when the plastic ring isn't what she was expecting! Or imagine the fury at a football victory parade, where the players announce at the end that they are going to give the trophy to the rival team. Disappointment can lead to extreme anger. Palm Sunday is all expectation and excitement as Jesus is welcomed as the Messiah, but God doesn't work as we expect.

Pray for help to trust God both when we are excited and during disappointments. God is always with us, whatever happens!

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!**

© Emma and Elizabeth Huber 2026
Licence:Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International