Come and Tear Down the Walls

MATERIALS

A candle • Two empty bowls • Small stones or pieces of torn paper

Tips for parents/caregivers

Keep the space safe and open. Some children may want to express sadness, some anger, some hope. Emphasize that feelings are OK and spending time being creative and reflecting is a way of praying and caring.

Becoming Still

Gather in a comfortable space. Light the candle.

Parent/Caregiver

God is with us. God made this land and all people. God loves every family and every culture.

Take a deep breath together.

Naming Brokenness with Gentleness and Honesty

Hold a stone or a piece of torn paper in your hand.

Parent/Caregiver

A long time ago, and even today, Indigenous Peoples have not always been treated fairly. Their voices were not listened to and their rights were not respected.

REFLECT TOGETHER

- How do you feel when someone doesn't listen to you?
- How do you think it feels when a whole group of people is ignored?

Place the stones or pieces of torn paper in one of the bowls.

Prayer
God, we are sorry for the harm done when people were not respected or treated equally. Help us see what is broken.

Remembering Everyone's Dignity

Parent/Caregiver
Indigenous Peoples were created by God with their own stories, languages and ways of caring for the land. They deserve respect, fairness and justice.

Invite each person to say one word: respect, listening, fairness, kindness, truth.

Choosing How to Walk Together

Bring out the second bowl.

REFLECT TOGETHER

What is one way our family can show respect this week?

- Listen when Indigenous voices speak
- Learn whose land we live on
- Care for the land
- Speak kindly and fairly about others

Have each person place a stone or torn piece of paper into the bowl to signify their promise to show respect this week.

Prayer
God, help our family to listen carefully, treat Indigenous Peoples with respect and walk gently together on this land.