

Sanctuary First

October 2009

THEME — "FAITH & MYSTERY"

Item	Description	Resources
ENTRY	<p>As people arrive they are invited to take their shoes off. It is a powerful image of reverence to see shoes stacked in the entrance. It is worth trying to make this happen.</p> <p>As they enter the venue a looped recording reminds them " take off your shoes from off your feet - The place where you stand is holy ground" The venue should have appropriate lighting to create a sense of mystery. A smoke machine can help to create this atmosphere along with candled or an imitation flame. We are seeking to create sense of expectancy for the worshipper.</p> <p>As the looped music comes to a crescendo – the voice asks – Who will go for us – who will we send?</p> <p>(Don't try to welcome anyone at this point the meditation should flow unannounced as should the following hymns if you decide to have singing in the event.)</p>	<p>Mp3/CD player</p> <p>Mp3 file "start_take off your shoes.mp3"</p> <p>Smoke/Dry Ice</p> <p>Candle/Flame</p>
VIDEO	"There is More Than This"	DVD/Laptop Projector PA/Audio Speakers
PRAISE	"How great Thou Art" "Here I am to Worship"	DVD/Praise Leader
INTRODUCTION	<p>Welcomes everyone and introduces the theme "Faith and Mystery" The presenter explains that this is one of three services happening around the country and we hope by the end of the year there will be scores of these events happening in various venues. The following bullet points could be expanded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- The event is all about understanding the awesome nature of God and his extravagant love for his creation -- To recognise how shabbily we live our lives and the pain we have in our broken relationships -- To experience and receive forgiveness through participation in this event. <p>Introduces the next video clip and inform them this is going to be an area where they will be asked to participate</p>	A Presenter
VIDEO	"Faith and Mystery — Sausages"	

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DISCUSSION	In small groups ask each other about mysterious experiences people have encountered. Presenter draws the discussion to a close and might introduce the following video clip	
VIDEO	"Faith and Mystery — Grave"	
PRESENTER 1	In this clip the suggestion is that death is one of the great agreed mysteries – yet Christianity has some amazing things to say about death and resurrection. The video clip ends up suggesting that it was in the middle of a time of mourning and sorrow that the prophet Isaiah had an amazing experience of God.	A Presenter
INTERVIEW	Interview with the prophet Isaiah. This can be done most effectively in real time. Isaiah sits in another room and by simply using Skype or iChat he appears on the screen in the main venue. He is interviewed on the screen by another presenter who stands in the live worship venue. (See script attached.) If this is not possible it can be adapted to be a piece of live drama.	Two, connected, computers one with camera Drama script , "Interview with Isaiah.pdf"
PRESENTER 1	Following on from this a short talk is given empathising with the fact that we all carry heavy burdens. Like Isaiah we are most often aware of our sinfulness and estrangement from God when we encounter holy moments. Tonight is such an opportunity where we can come before God and like Isaiah receive his forgiveness. At the end of the talk those gathered are invited to make the following prayer their own. This is a prayer of confession and repentance. "Post Its" are passed around and we are asked to make a shape on the paper to represent the things for which we need forgiveness. While the prayer is played the symbol is drawn.	POST-It Notes
VIDEO	"Lord, I'm Sorry" (Clip: Broken_water)	
PRESENTER 2	Invites everyone to come forward and burn the paper. (This is simply done by having a metal waste bin and a long candle. You burn the small "post it " and drop it in the bin.) This is done while the song Sanctuary First is played. We will supply song in MP3 format (This is the crescendo of the service and is a powerful act of contrition for many people. Give this time and space and don't hurry it}	Metal bin Flame Mp3 File, "Sanctuary First.mp3"
PRAISE	"Purify My Heart"	

Item	Description	Resources
PRESENTER 2	<p>Reads from 1 John 1 verse 8. If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Then the presenter assures everyone if they have truly repented from the heart God has forgiven their sin. It is as though it were drowned in the depth of the sea.</p> <p>This is optional can be used when appropriate It is an opportunity to express thanks to God for the has done in our lives and to share in the vision of Sanctuary First.</p>	
OFFERING	<p>Thanksgiving Offering</p> <p>This is optional can be used when appropriate. It is an opportunity to express thanks to God for the has done in our lives and to share in the vision of Sanctuary First.</p>	
PRESENTER 1	<p>We have spent a considerable time being introspective this evening looking at ourselves. Worship calls us to also look out into God's world and pray for those in need known and unknown to us.</p> <p>[OPTION] Here at Sanctuary First we believe in using technology. So we would like to invite you to switch on your mobiles. And send a prayer text now by texting the word BIBLE then your prayer and sending it to 80806 you will see your prayer arrive on the screen with the prayers of others. So please be still in this place and let the technology of your phone be used to encourage and strengthen all of us in prayer. (While this is happening appropriate music is played through the sound system.)</p> <p>[OPTION] Folks are invited to call out topics/people/events to contribute. Presenter makes brief notes and then leads the service in prayer, using the contributed comments.</p>	Internet Access Projector/Screen TextIt Account
PRAISE	" "	
PRESENTER 1	Highlight the Sanctuary First Website and its ability to keep us all connected to each other and to God.	