

Ideal Church

CHURCH

Give five index cards to each person. Ask everyone to write one completion to the following statement on each card: "The ideal church would be one that..." When the kids finish writing, ask them to order the rejoinders they wrote from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important), mark the rank on the back of the card.

Then open up trading—one for one—where each young person tries to accumulate the five cards they desire most for their ideal church. After some spirited trading, instruct everyone to

discard three of the five cards they now possess, keeping the best two. Finally, allow several minutes for the kids to form a "church" consisting of four or five members of the group.

Once divided into churches, each church group should choose a name and, if time permits, design a symbol for their church. Allow each group to present its church to the entire group and to explain its symbol and its goals as a church community.