A picture speaks a thousand words....

Metaphor, symbolism, imagery, and parable are common in the Bible because they can often convey deeper meaning than just filling our heads with information, facts and rules.

For example, through his parables Jesus used the familiarity of ordinary activity and physical surrounds to convey his teaching of profound truths. Everyday illustrations helped people relate to his message, and by appealing to the senses and imaginations of his audience he connected with their hearts and spirits.

This is an invitation to take a similar approach to your prayer, Bible study, and devotional times, by using your God-given creativity!

Because we are all different not everything in this series of prayer and devotional resources will seem helpful to everyone, so begin with one of the activities that appeals to you, but don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and enjoy an adventure!

You could try something different each day.

Or repeat anything you find helpful to your devotional life and where you sense God is leading you.

Always begin in God's word and with a simple prayer to ask the Holy Spirit to guide you.

During this time share your thoughts and feelings with Jesus and LISTEN to the Voice of the Holy Spirit. Be prepared to follow and respond as he leads you.

Writing down anything significant from your prayer time can be helpful for further reflection now, or down the track.

You might also ask that God will reveal his presence, grow your relationship with Jesus, and further his kingdom by growing you alongside others with whom you can share his life and love.