



The tarp

AT A GLANCE


Bible

Isaiah 54:2


Topic

Making room for others


Takeaway

A group that is wide and still gives stability



8 minutes



Object: a tarp or a large sheet



Preparation: 5 min



indoors or outdoors



Make it personal: In two sentences, share something you have experienced yourself on the topic "Making room for others". Real stories stick best.



How the devotion works

1 min

Opening

Spread out the tarp. Ask: How many people fit under it? Try it out!

2 min

Bible text

Read Isaiah 54:2: "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes." God promises his people that they will grow – and calls them to make room.

3 min

Thought

A group can feel like a small, cosy tent – as long as nobody new comes in. God thinks bigger: in his tent there is room for many. Enlarging means welcoming newcomers, making room in the circle, breaking up cliques. And strengthening the stakes means: community also needs stability and reliability.

2 min

Conversation

Who would fit into our "tent" but is still outside?



The tarp



Prayer to read aloud

God, your tent is wide. Help us to make room for people who would like to belong. And give us firm stability in you. Amen.



To think further

- What makes it hard for newcomers in our group?
- How can we be wide and firm at the same time?



For leaders

- Never put young people on the spot: ask open questions, nobody has to answer.
- Let one of the young people read the Bible text aloud.
- Encourage them to say the prayer themselves – the written prayer gives confidence.



Section: Object lessons. You will find matching group meetings and more devotions at scouts-cloud.com.