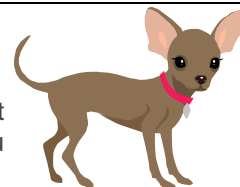


Aim: To teach respect for things of God & continue with obedience to parents

Imagine that you have a baby Chihuahua puppy, and imagine that the puppy wants to make you do something; maybe it wants you to feed it. It might try and push you towards the food, or drag the food to you. Chance are, if it's food time then you will feed it, but if it's not food time and you know that eating too much will make it sick then you won't and there is no way that little tiny puppy can make you do something if you don't want to.



The Israelites thought that by bringing the ark into the battle, they could make God help them, but just like it's impossible for a little puppy to control you, it was impossible for them to control God. God wasn't helping them because they hadn't really stopped to ask Him; some of them were worshiping idols, and for those who were still worshiping God, Eli's son were ruining the Sanctuary by stealing and not following the proper way of doing things that God had given. God had warned Eli more than once that if he didn't do something about his sons then something bad would happen.

Do you remember Nadab and Abihu? Aaron's sons who didn't respect the Sanctuary and got drunk and took ordinary fire into the Sanctuary and were acting disrespectfully? They were killed by the light of God.

Respect for sacred things is a very important thing to God.

Make a list and discuss ways you can show respect for things of God. (Some ideas are given below – discuss them)

- **Showing respect for God's Bible**
 - Never sit anything else on top of the Bible.
 - Always make sure you have clean hands when you use a Bible
 - Turn the pages carefully so they don't rip, bend or get crushed.
- **Showing respect when you talk to God**
 - Fold your hands while you pray, so you are not playing with anything else
 - Bow your head and close your eye so you are not distracted by looking at anything else
 - Sit still while you pray
 - Don't talk when someone else is praying
 - Say Amen at the end
 - Use a respectful voice when you pray
- **Showing respect in God's Church**
 - Stand, sit or kneel when you are supposed to
 - Join in the prayer; join in the singing – sing nicely
 - Whisper, if you have to talk
 - The most respectful way to sit in church is on a seat with your feet on the floor; but if you need to sit on the floor then sit between the seats.
 - Don't run or yell in the church, stay off the rostrum – unless you are doing something for Church there.
 - Go to the toilet and have a drink before Church so that you don't have to do it in the middle.
 - It is better not to eat in Church; especially food that will drop crumbs or leave a mess.

Imagine again if you had a puppy; if that puppy wagged it's tail at you, or tried to jump up on you, or even just looked at you, you would think it was very cute and you would love it very much; and you would do lots of things for it, as long as you knew that they weren't things that would hurt the puppy. You wouldn't be happy though, if the puppy chewed your favourite t-shirt, or peed on your shoes.

God loves us more than we can imagine. He wants to do good things for us too. We can show God that we love Him by being respectful in His Church, being respectful when we talk to Him, and showing respect to His Bible.