

1. Global Community

PRAYERS

Jewish Prayer

We pray for all humanity
Though divided into nations and races,
Yet all people are your children,
Drawing from you their life and being
Commanded by you to obey your laws,
Each in accordance with the power to
know and understand them.
Cause hatred and strife to vanish,
That abiding peace may fill the earth,
And humanity may everywhere be
blessed with the fruit of peace.
So shall the spirit of family among
people, show forth their faith that
You are Father of all.

Liberal Prayer Book

I was born with a bronze skin, and I like it. Some of my friends were born white or black or yellow. They were not consulted. But that's alright. There are yellow roses, white roses and red roses and the fragrance of the one is about as nice as the other. I hope my children will live in a world where people of all colours can sit and work together.

Chief Walking Buffalo of the Stoney Indians - Sharing

ACTIVITIES

Rhythm Clap

This is good for large groups of 10 or more. Everyone closes their eyes and begins to clap or beat any rhythm he or she chooses. At first, it will sound disjointed and chaotic, but gradually people try to change subconsciously in order to create a fine rhythmical experience. It can end at any time by players opening eyes or by slowing down the rhythm. People who believe themselves to be without rhythm will feel pleased with the activity.



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POEMS & STORIES

Two Brothers

Once there were two brothers who both wanted to be artists, but as they came from a very large family and were very poor they knew they would never have enough money to study. However, one day Albrecht said to Franz, 'I have an idea, let one of us study painting while the other earns the money and then we can change over. That way we can both become artists'. Franz agreed to the plan but only on the condition that Albrecht, the younger and better artist, should be the first to learn from the great Masters.

So Albrecht studied hard while Franz laboured to keep them both. Eventually Albrecht finished his studies and joyfully he told Franz that it was his turn. But poor Franz held up his hands, which were now knarled, calloused hands of a workman and useless to an artist. He couldn't even hold a pencil. Albrecht was grief-stricken and he said, "There is only one way in which I can repay you. I shall draw a picture that will speak to men's hearts - a picture of these hands for sacrifice and love." 400 years later the picture of the Praying Hands is known and loved the

world over. Albrecht Durer became one of Germany's greatest painters but his brother, to whom he owed his success is almost forgotten.

Sharing

The Paradox of our Soul

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider roads, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour. We've conquered outer space, but not inner space. We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. These are days of quick trips, disposable nappies, throwaway morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer to quiet, to kill. Adapted from George Carlin

