



You Are Valued



Aim: A lady in the group asked if all the women would be willing to colour a picture of a rose to represent women who have been killed by domestic violence for a project at the refuge where she is currently living. The added aim for the Unlock group is to link this to how Jesus treated women.

Outcomes: To learn that Jesus respected and cared for women and that God is our refuge.

Unlocking life experience:

Activity: Colour in the rose pictures with pastels, paints, pencils, crayons.

We heard from the girl who had asked us to do the activity.

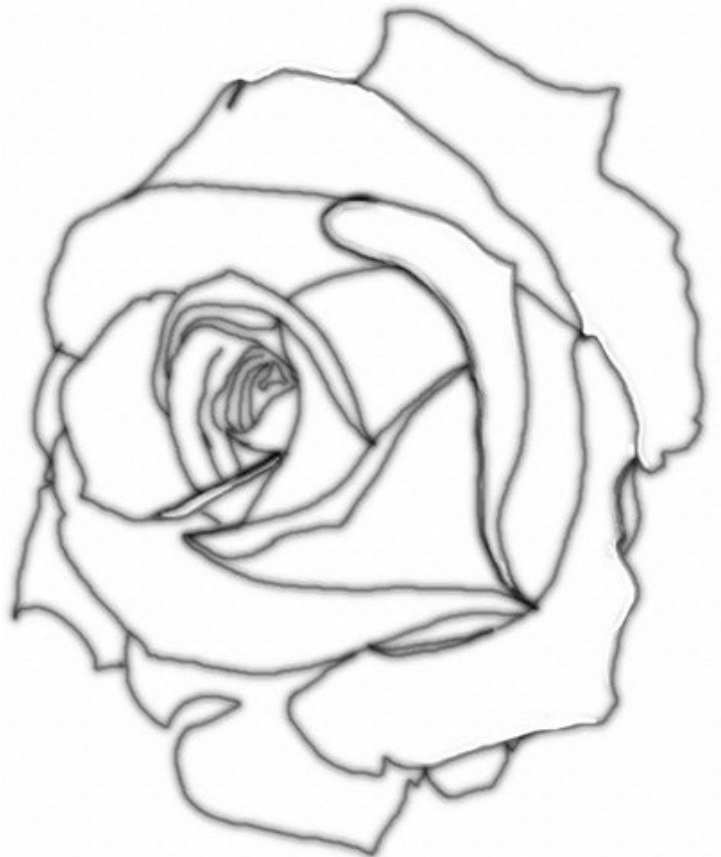
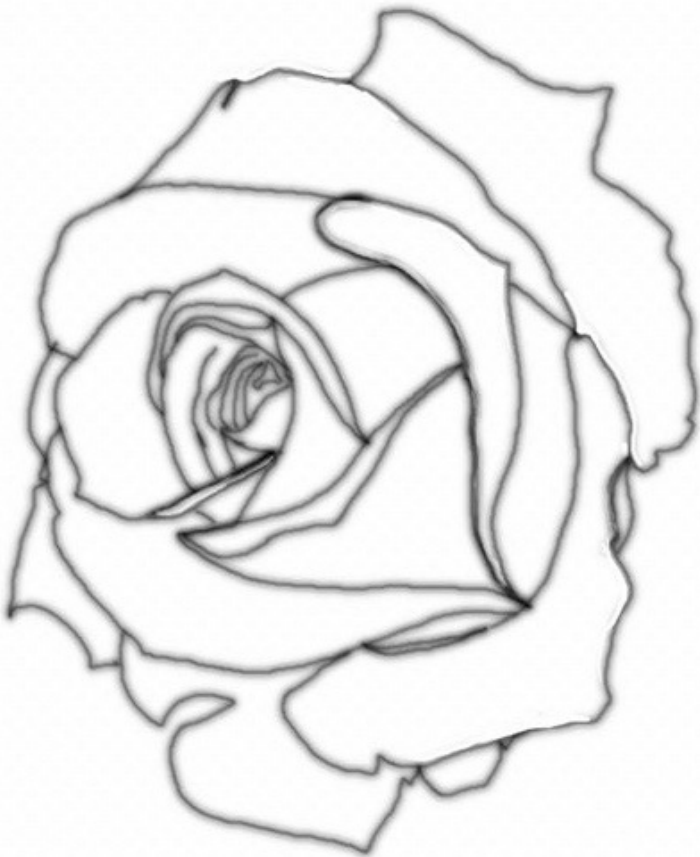
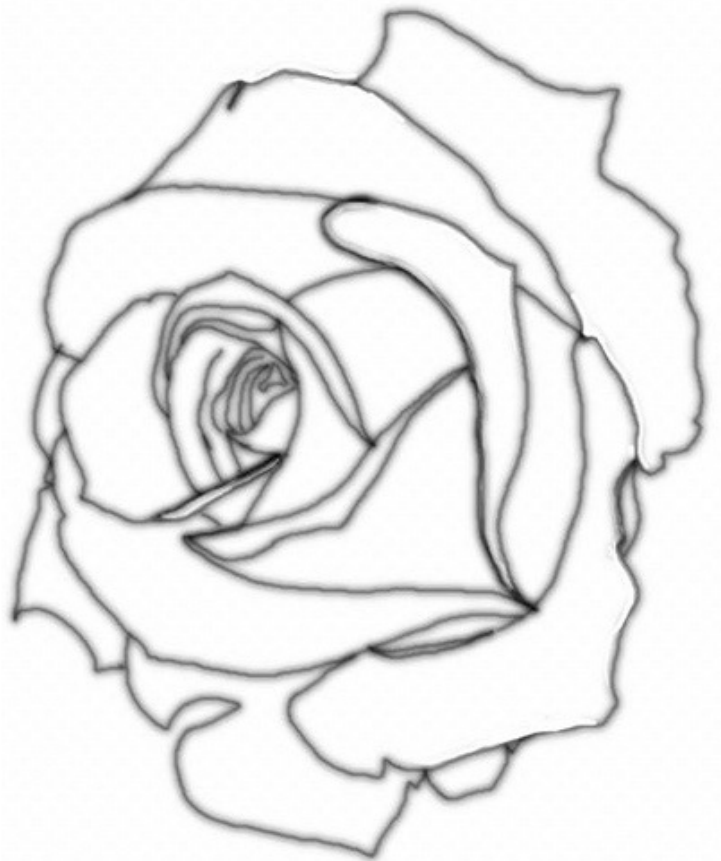
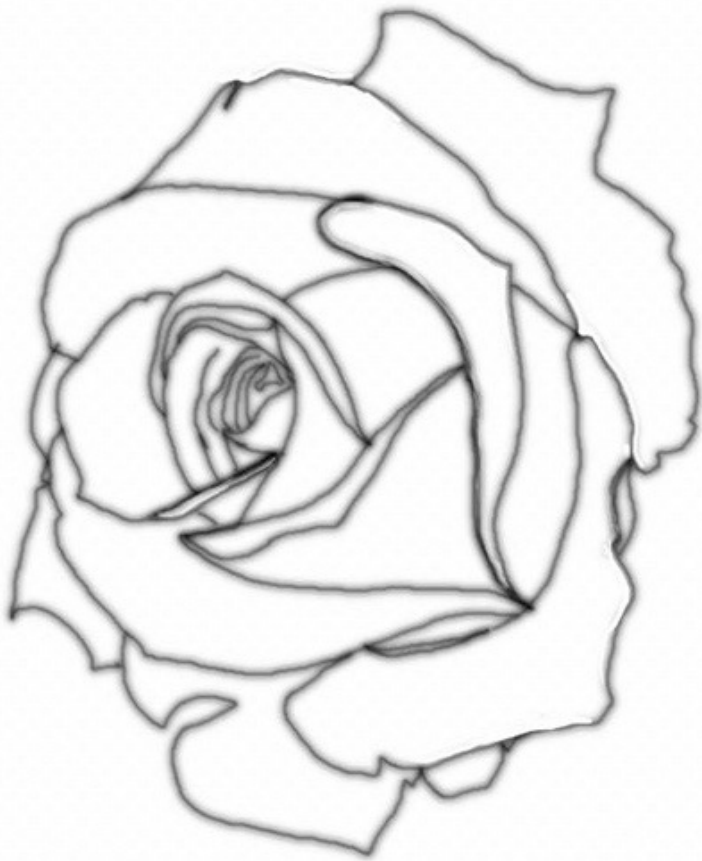
Discussion

- ◆ Have you ever felt looked down on because you're a woman or do you know any women who have been looked down on?
- ◆ Have you ever been criticized harshly?
- ◆ Have you ever been treated nicely by someone when others didn't want to know you?

Some seemed a bit unsure about this activity to start with after enjoying previous cooking sessions but once they realised what it was for they seemed quite content.

The roses will eventually be displayed in Burnley town centre later in the year to raise awareness of the issues of deaths from domestic violence and financial cuts to the services. They're aiming to do 9000 roses so some pictures were taken to be coloured at other groups in the church and we gave her the option of bringing more to the Unlock group if needed.





Icebreaker: on this occasion we just served refreshments.

Conversation was hard to begin with, but after talking about the women's world cup and the difference in the men's and women's game including wages, it seemed to open up more stories. A lot of the mums felt looked down on in courses run by the school and children's centre. One mum wasn't feeling well but another was looking after her and had been with her all day offering support and being nice by doing the washing up.

Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ:



Tell the story using the text on the next page or one of these videos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-sr8V0zU-4>

or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLq4h5cTtv0>



Mark 14:3-9 Good News Translation (GNT) Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany

³ Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon, a man who had suffered from a dreaded skin disease. While Jesus was eating, a woman came in with an alabaster jar full of a very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on Jesus' head. ⁴ Some of the people there became angry and said to one another, "What was the use of wasting the perfume? ⁵ It could have been sold for more than three hundred silver coins and the money given to the poor!" And they criticized her harshly.

⁶ But Jesus said, "Leave her alone! Why are you bothering her? She has done a fine and beautiful thing for Me. ⁷ You will always have poor people with you, and any time you want to, you can help them. But you will not always have Me. ⁸ She did what she could; she poured perfume on My body to prepare it ahead of time for burial. ⁹ Now, I assure you that wherever the gospel is preached all over the world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."



Releasing Life Changing Skills and Confidence:

Questions for discussion:

- ◆ Can you see connections between our stories and the Bible story?
- ◆ How did the people with Jesus respond to the woman? How did Jesus respond to the woman?
- ◆ How do you think Jesus responds to you?
- ◆ How do you respond to Jesus?

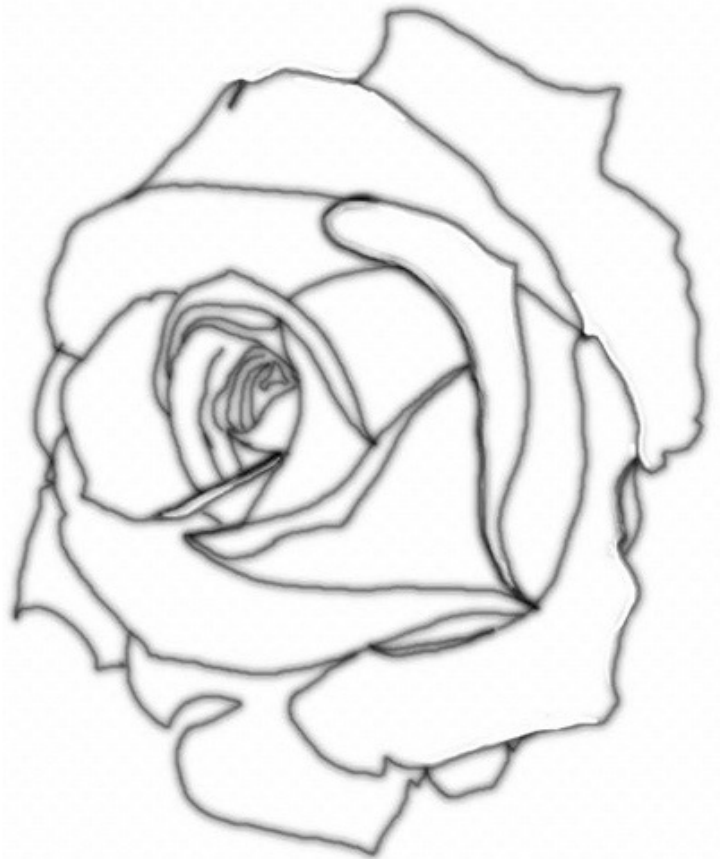
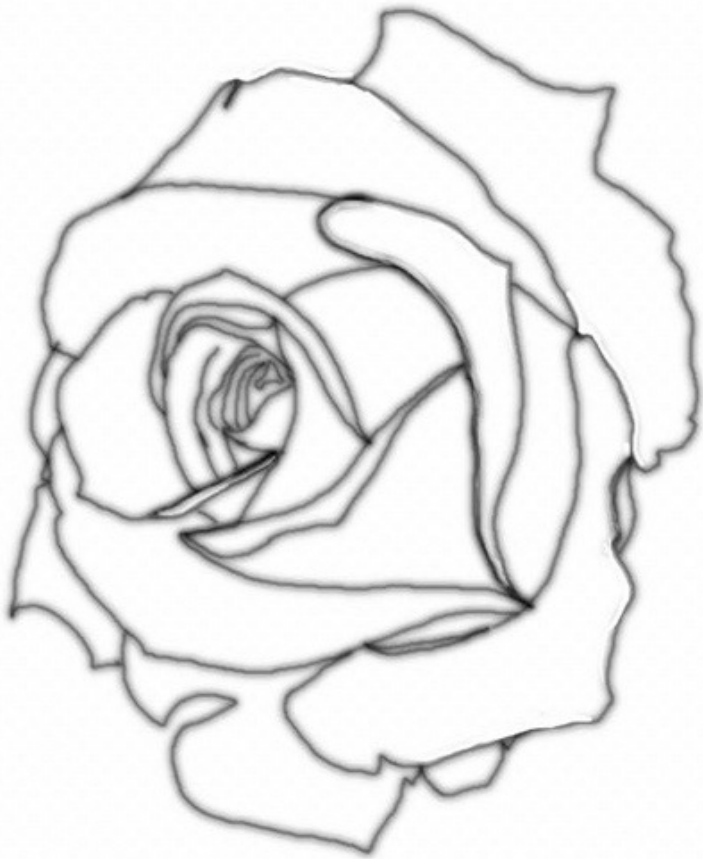
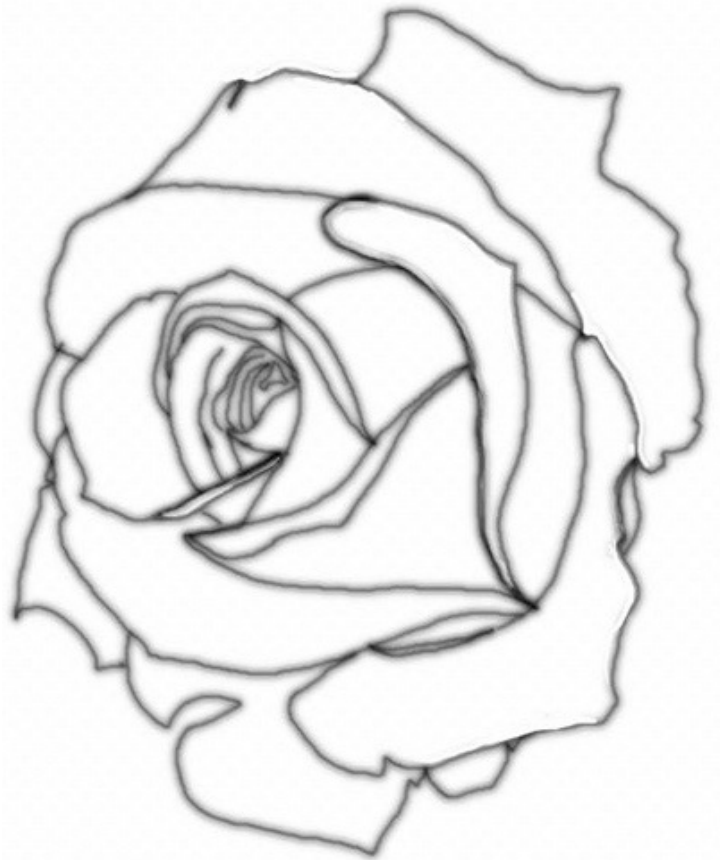
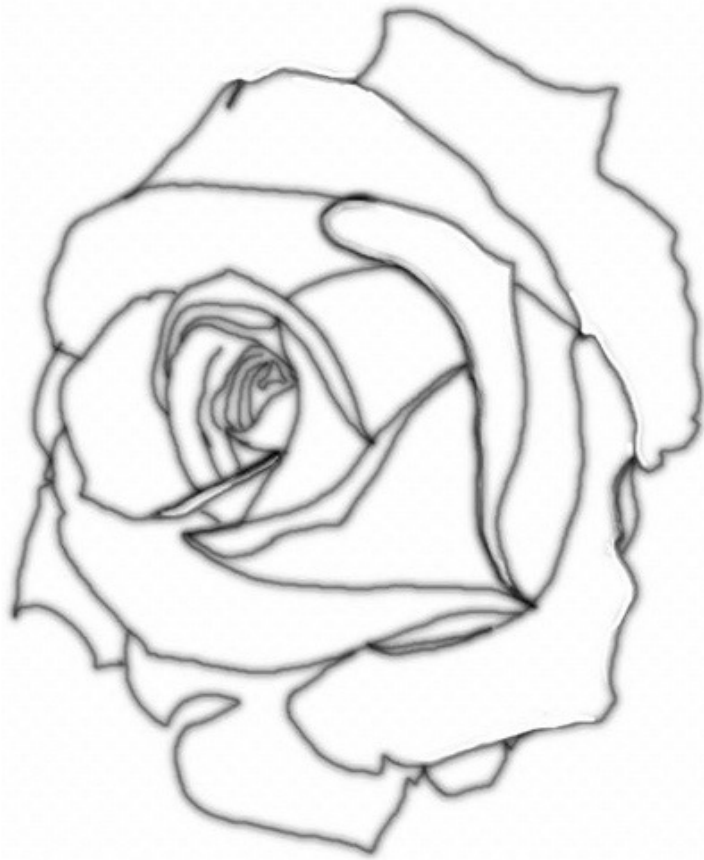
They immediately picked up on the way the woman was criticized and identified with that.

Psalm 9:9-10 Good News Translation (GNT)

⁹ The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed,
a place of safety in times of trouble.

¹⁰ Those who know You, Lord, will trust You;
You do not abandon anyone who comes
to You.





Continuing Reflective Cycles:

Thinking of everything we have shared, what difference could these promises mean?
Give out small cards with verses on one side and a rose on the other.

They loved the cards and the lady took all the remaining cards to give out at the refuge.

Questions for discussion:

- ◆ Is there anything you want to remember from this session?
- ◆ Anything you want to change in your life as a result?
- ◆ Try to remember that God is our refuge as you go through the ups and downs of this coming week.
- ◆ Can you share this promise with anyone else?



Outline Developed by Alison
Adlum: Unlock Burnley

