

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

YEAR 2/TERM 6/WEEK 1

OLD TESTAMENT CHARACTERS WHO RESPONDED TO GOD BY CHANGING AND GROWING

There are many colourful stories in the Old Testament which show how people changed through their encounters with God. These were changes for the better – changes for the better invariably result in growth of understanding and character.

SEAL link - Self-control

Values link – Trust

| GATHER | ENGAGE | RESPOND | SEND |
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| <p>Leader: The Lord be with you</p> <p>Response: And also with you</p> | <p>JONAH: CHANGING DIRECTION (whole school) Jonah 1-4 Ask the children to think of all the different things people say when they want to get out of a job. Write them down e.g. No, Later, I'm busy, Do I have to? Karen's mum doesn't make her wash up etc.</p> <p>Use a simplified version of this story, for example the Lion Storyteller Bible. There is also a BBC Assemblies cartoon version if you prefer (just over 7 mins long). Here is the classic case of someone who tried to run away from God and ignore the message which God wanted him to take to others. Jonah was asked by God to go to Ninevah to take God's message. Jonah thought he could run away and avoid God, by joining a ship sailing in the opposite direction to Ninevah. Are there times when we try to 'run away' from a problem? Do we sometimes have to re-think and change direction?</p> | <p>Hymn: Praise Him, Praise Him (Come and Praise 1- Blue book) Ask the children to pay particular attention to the verse which says 'Trust him, trust Him'.</p> <p>Prayer: Thank you, God that you are always there for us and that we can trust in you. Help us not to be so proud that we cannot ask for help or accept it when it is offered. Amen</p> | <p>Divide a display board in two. Ask pupils to write on slips of paper their 'excuses' & put them on one side of the board & on the other side, write responses they should/could make instead. Could use whale shaped pieces of paper!</p> <p>Offer help to someone today, not for reward, but for the joy of doing it. Accept help if is offered.</p> <p>As you go about your school day, think about the consequences of getting people into trouble. When we get into trouble, we don't get thrown into the lion's den, but it can still be difficult to carry on doing what is right.</p> |
| | <p>NAAMAN: CHANGING ATTITUDE (whole school) II Kings 5 Play a short game of 'Simon says' with a small group of children at the front. Use a simplified version of the story, for example the Lion Storyteller Bible. This story takes place before Jesus was born. This tells of an important and powerful man who changed from being proud to believing in the God of Israel because of a physical change brought about by the intervention of a little Israelite girl. Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a mighty and brave warrior who had won many victories. However, he suffered from a skin disease, from which there was NO cure. He has leprosy! A young girl tells him how to be cured. He eventually had to trust in God. When might we have to trust in God?</p> | | |
| <p>Leader: The Lord is here</p> <p>Response: His spirit is with us.</p> <p>Display this 'thinking question' as the children enter</p> | | | |

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| <p>assembly (no need to take answers) How do some people try to get other into trouble?</p> | <p>KING DARIUS: THE STORY OF DANIEL (whole school) Daniel 6 A simplified version of this story can be found in The Lion Storyteller Bible. Ask the children to think about his/her best friend. Ask the children to think about how they would feel if they couldn't ever speak to that friend again and if they disobeyed, they'd be in big trouble! In the story today, Daniel was told just that. He was told he could no longer talk to his best friend – God. However, Daniel would not change his mind. He continued to pray to God and consequently, upon King Darius' orders, was thrown into the lion's den. King Darius saw how God had protected Daniel and changed what he believed. Our friends cannot always be with us, but God is always there.</p> | <p>Prayer: Thank you Father, for the example of Daniel, who had the courage to carry on praying and trusted in you for the outcome. Give us that same courage, that we might trust you to guide us every day. Amen</p> | <p>Display this prayer in the classrooms:</p> <p>Give us the courage we need and the strength to succeed.</p> |
| <p>Play 'My God is so great' as the children enter</p> | <p>SAMSON (class or key stage) Judges 13-16 This is quite a complicated story – there is a simplified version in The Beginners' Bible (KS1) for younger pupils. It is a very dramatic story in which Samson changes – once when he disobeys God and cuts his hair – and then, when he realises he has been wrong, God gives him back his strength. Ask the children if they would like to be as strong as an Olympian weight-lifter. What would they be able to do if they had such strength? Tell them that the story today is about a man who had great physical strength, but he needed more than that. Tell the story from an appropriate version – KS1 The Beginner's Bible or KS2 DK pg 100 – 105. There is also a good version on Assemblies.org.uk What other kind of strength did Samson need? He needed inner strength. He needed to be strong-willed and to have the strength to make the right choices. Sometimes we are faced with challenges and it seems tempting to take the easy way out. There are times, too, when we need to have the courage to stop doing the wrong thing.</p> | <p>Hymn: Be bold, be strong</p> <p>All say: Help us to be strong to do right and brave to stand against what is wrong.</p> | |