



DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

TERM 5/YEAR 1 /WEEK 4 - RESPONDING TO JESUS AS OUR FRIEND

The focus here is upon Jesus as a friend and especially the important messages which he communicates through his life and his sayings. Focus on what is sometimes challenging about friendship and how we respond in those situations.

Acknowledgement – the final of worship outlined below is based upon an example in ‘Wisdom for Worship’ by Margaret Cooling.

SEAL link – Relationships

Values link – Friendship

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Music such as ‘You’ve got a friend in me’ might set the scene for the theme for the week</p>	<p>JESUS NEEDED HIS FRIENDS (whole school) Mark 6 v 35-42 Choose an appropriate version of the feeding of the 5000 in which the disciples’ role in finding food and then helping to distribute it amongst the great crowds is made clear. Jesus chose 12 special friends because he knew that he would need practical help and support as he carried out his special work for God. In this story, he asked his friends to help him to feed all the people who had spent so long listening to Jesus that they were hungry and needing a meal. How can we be good friends in practical ways? Do we make sure that we can sometimes see that our friends need our help even before they ask for it or if they are reluctant to ask for it? Do we give help even if it is sometimes inconvenient for us? Act out some scenarios to help the pupils to think about this.</p>	<p>Give opportunities for pupils to say prayers in the quiet for their particular friends.</p>	<p>Think about sharing the peace as a sign of the friendship which is shared by the school community. There are many ways of doing this, usually people shake hands but you could try:</p>
<p>‘Where two or three are gathered together in my name,’ says the Lord, ‘there am I in the midst of them.’</p>	<p>JESUS HELPED HIS FRIENDS (whole school) Mark 4 v 1 – 20 Use a drama situation in which someone is not able to understand a particular idea – perhaps use a very difficult calculation with big numbers and lots of algebra etc. Pretend to get frustrated and not be able to appreciate why it is so difficult for the other person when the solution is plain to see – perhaps have the solution set out ready to ‘open the eyes’ of the learner. Jesus often taught using parables. It seems that the disciples did not always understand the meaning and they had to go to Jesus after he has told a parable so that he could explain the meaning to them (Mark 4 v 13-14). It looks as if Jesus might have been a bit frustrated but he was able to explain the meaning so that the disciples could move on in their understanding of what God was like and what he wanted them to do. Friendships are not always easy when our friends do not understand why we</p>	<p>Provide an interactive prayer space for ‘Prayers for all my friends’ perhaps including friends from the worldwide family as part of a display.</p> <p>Lord Jesus Give me the</p>	<p>a silent ‘hi-5’ or making a sign (a cross) on each others’ palms or passing a pebble or other object</p>



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<p>Use images of the school community to remind pupils of the importance of good relationships and friendships in school</p>	<p>might be behaving in a certain way and why we might not be understanding what they are feeling or wanting to do. It is easy to get frustrated but we need to think of ways to help and support and explain and listen.</p>	<p>courage to be a true friend. May I never be afraid of the opinions of others and never shrink from offering help even if it is not easy for me to do so. Let me stand with you beside my friends whenever they need me. For Your Name's sake. AMEN</p> <p>Create a word picture prayer. <i>A wobbly tooth Brakes that don't work A chair with a broken leg etc On all these things we can't depend. Thank you Father that you are dependable. May we never to be a wobbly tooth</i></p>	<p>.... as we do this we say 'Peace be with you', or 'God's Peace to you', or 'Peace be among us'...</p>
	<p>JESUS ASKED HIS FRIENDS TO BE LOYAL TO HIM EVEN WHEN FOLLOWING HIM WAS DIFFICULT Mark 14 v 43-50 There is a scene in Toy Story 2 when Buzz Lightyear is leading the toys to Al's Play Barn and they have to cross a dangerous road (chaos is caused by them hiding under traffic cones!) Buzz says 'Follow me' and they do this regardless of the danger. This provides a good visual introduction to how dangerous it can be to follow your friends. If we look at the story of Easter, we can see that it was dangerous for the disciples to be with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane when the Temple guards came to arrest him. One of his friends betrayed Jesus and all the others ran away. Are there times when it might be difficult to stand by a friend? What if you are the only one who is sticking up for your friend? Would it be easier to go with the crowd like the disciples did when all of them saw the danger and left him? What would you do and why?</p>		
	<p>THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING A DEPENDABLE FRIEND Proverbs 25.19 'Depending on an unreliable person in a difficult situation is like trying to chew with a wobbly tooth'. Use a chewy sweet. Ask pupils what might happen if someone tried to chew it with a loose tooth (do not do this). Talk about the way you cannot trust a loose tooth to stay firm. Pupils will probably be only too happy to share their experience of wobbly teeth. If you try to rely on a person and they let you down, it's like a loose tooth letting you down when you try to eat. This is a 'word picture' of not being dependable. Other examples might be going down a hill on a bike and your brakes not working or sitting on a chair and the chair legs breaking. Ask pupils for some others or ask the question 'what would happen if...' Christians believe people can trust God because he is dependable. He is not like a wobbly tooth that lets you down when you try to chew. Christians believe that they should reflect God's character and be dependable when others need them. How can you be a more dependable friend? How can you make sure that you do not let your friends down?</p>		



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