

Acts of Worship

Virtue: Faith/Faithfulness

Virtue statement:

*I know that faith is a gift from God; Faith helps me grow in friendship with Jesus;
I show my faith by living my life filled with faith and love.*

Week 1 – theme – Faith is a gift from God

Gathering together

Focal point:

White/ gold cloth (Christmas season)

A wrapped gift – the word 'FAITH' written inside

The kings from a nativity set

Candle

Key word cards: Faith, hope, love, trust, gift

Word

Ephesians 2:8-10

For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it.

God has made us what we are, and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do.

Response to/reflection on the Word

When do we receive gifts? Who do we receive gifts from? How do they make us feel? (from people who love us, feel valued, cared for etc)

Discuss the gifts the three kings brought. Reveal the gift of faith from the box on the focal point. How did the three kings show faith? Rather than material gifts (like those given at Christmas/ birthdays etc), this a very important gift, a gift from God.

Play some reflective music. What does faith mean to us? Refer to the key word cards.

Going forth

Ideas for music:

We three kings

My lighthouse by Rend Collective

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reAlJKv7ptU>)

How great thou art

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'God beside me' Fischy music

Virtue: Faith/Faithfulness

Virtue to live by:

*I know that faith is a gift from God; Faith helps me grow in friendship with Jesus;
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Week 2 – theme – growth in Faith

Gathering together

Focal point:

Green cloth (back to ordinary time)

Image of a flourishing tree/plant or an actual plant

(Mustard) seeds

Candle

Word

Matthew 13: 31-32 The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He gave them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest garden plant and becomes a tree, so that the wild birds come and nest in its branches."

Response to/reflection on the Word

Play reflective music/You tube video of the parable of the mustard seed:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=mustard+seed+dana+hanson&view=detail&mid=3DED5989C8812482CAFE3DED5989C8812482CAFE&FORM=VIRE>

Whilst the music is playing, asking the children the following and ask them to reflect on the questions.

Who is the seed? How do we grow our friendship and relationship with God?

How can we grow in faith like the mustard seed?

Going forth

Give each class a pack of seeds and a plant pot, asking them to grow their plant as a symbol of them growing their faith.

Ideas for music:

'Seek ye first the kingdom of God'

'Father in my life I see'

'As the deer'

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'You shall go out with joy'

'The song of a young prophet'

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+song+of+a+young+prophet&view=detail&mid=B785C9727056FD790BF2B785C9727056FD790BF2&FORM=VIRE>

'Bring it all to me' – Fischy Music

'You've got a friend in me' – Toy Story

'You've got a friend' – James Taylor

'You've got a friend' – Aretha Franklin

NB: there is a Godly Play story about the parable mustard seed:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=mustard+seed+godly+play&&view=detail&mid=4E167BB2A7BE837C08764E167BB2A7BE837C0876&&FORM=VRD GAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dmustard%2520seed%2520godly%2520play%26qs%3Dn%26form%3DQBVD MH%26sp%3D-1%26pq%3Dmustard%2520seed%2520godly%2520play%26sc%3D1-23%26sk%3D%26cvid%3D4B71657F90AC4F39861D04FBBC4F76EC>

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Week 3 – theme – living our faith

Gathering together

Focal point:

Green cloth (back to ordinary time)

Candle

Word

Luke 5:1-11

On one occasion, while Jesus was standing by the Lake with the crowd pressing in on Him to hear the word of God, He saw two boats at the edge of the lake. The fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. Jesus got into the boat belonging to Simon and asked him to put out a little from shore. And sitting down, He taught the people from the boat. When Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." "Master," Simon replied, "we have worked through the night without catching anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to tear.

So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

And when they had brought their boats ashore, they left everything and followed Him."

Response to/reflection on the Word

Ask the children to re-listen to part of the Gospel reading:

"Master," Simon replied, "we have worked through the night without catching anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to tear.

What does this say about living our faith?

Draw out the trust and the faith that the disciples showed in Jesus when they were in the boat.

How can we show this in our everyday lives? How can we show that we live our faith?

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Going forth

Ask the children to think about the children to think about how we can live out our faith in the coming week.

Say together:

Living God,

You walk alongside us and

Speak to us throughout the scriptures.

Your Son, Jesus Christ,

Listens to our hopes and fears

And shows us how to live for one another.

Send us the Holy Spirit

To open our hearts and minds

So that we may be your witness

Throughout the world.

Amen

(From the 'God who speaks')

Ideas for music:

'Follow me'

'Do not be afraid'

'Father I place into your hands'

'Lord of all hopefulness'

'Eagles' wings'