

Acts of Worship

Virtue: Simplicity

Virtue to live by:

I know what really matters in life. I can give time to think of others, do good and care for creation. Living simply helps me put more trust in God.

Week 1 – theme – what really matters


Gathering together

Focal point:

Green cloth

Candle

Symbols of 'success' – money, toy car, phone, football shirt, you tube picture

etc, 'like' symbol 

Symbols of God's world – e.g. child smiling, rainbow, image of friendship, Cafod logo, Fairtrade logo

Before you begin

Discuss the symbols/ artefacts on display. Which do they recognise? Which do they think is important?

Word

Psalm 46:10

"Be still, and know that I am God."

Or

Matthew 6:21

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Response to/reflection on the Word

Play some reflective music.

What do you think is important to God? Which of these things is important to you? Which *should* be important?

Going forth

What simple task can you do to make the world a better place this week?

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Ideas for music:

'If I were a butterfly'

'Sing a simple song'

'This little light of mine'

'Shine Jesus shine'

'Magic penny'

'Count your blessings'

'Be still'

'Ka-ching' Shania Twain

'Price tag' – Jessie J

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Week 2 – theme – trusting God

Gathering together

Focal point:

Green cloth

Candle

Everything else bare

Word

Philippians 4:19

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Response to/reflection on the Word

Play quiet reflective music. Ask the children to think about one thing in their lives that they could do without.

Could they place their lives and their trust in God? They could pray first thing in the morning to ask God to be with them, and thank Him at night.

Going forth

Make a change in your life to allow more space for God.

Ideas for music:

'Father in my life'

'The love I have for you'

'Sing of the Lord's goodness'

'Changes' – David Bowie

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Week 3 – theme – social justice

Gathering together

Focal point:

Word

Acts 4:32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The group of those who believed were of one heart and mind, and no one said that any of his possessions was his own, but everything was held in common. ... For there was no one needy among them, because those who were owners of land or houses were selling them and bringing the proceeds from the sales and placing them at the apostles' feet. The proceeds were distributed to each, as anyone had need.

Response to/reflection on the Word

Play reflective music:

How did Jesus' followers show that they lived simply? What did they do to ensure everyone had enough? How did they live Jesus' teachings?

What can we do to follow this example?

Going forth

Ideas for music:

'We are the Church' – Christopher Walker

'Children of God' - Christopher Walker

'Will you come and follow me?'

'Oh Lord, all the world belongs to you'

'Jesus said, love everybody'

'Simplicity' Rend Collective

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=otCkCfyg5bU>

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Other ideas:

Pope Francis said: "The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all." What can we do to help create a world fit for all?

Could use Cafod resources for climate change as an addition/ alternative:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8unGCTWUWI&feature=youtu.be>