

St. John's C of E (Aided) Primary School



Themes for Daily Acts of Class Worship

Summer Term 1 2021

Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Bible Verse	OT NT	Possible Bible Stories
1	12.4.2021	<i>Being back together ... settling in ... Everyone is Special & Important etc.</i>			
2	19.4.2021	Jesus is Alive!	<i>"He is not here. He has risen from the dead as he said he would. Come and see the place where his body was." (Matthew 28:6)</i>	NT	<i>Jesus Rises from the Dead</i> (Matthew 28:1-10)
3	26.4.2021	Doubts	<i>When it was evening on the first day of the week, Jesus' followers were together. The doors were locked, because they were afraid of the elders. Then Jesus came and stood right in the middle of them and said, "Peace be with you." (John 20:29)</i>	NT	<i>Jesus Appears to His Disciples</i> <i>Jesus Appears to Doubting Thomas</i> (John 20:19-29)
4	Tuesday 4.5.2021 (Bank holiday Monday 3.5.2021)	Questions, questions, questions	<i>And then, they were allowed to recognise Jesus. But when they saw who he was, he disappeared. ³² They said to each other, "It felt like a fire burning in us when Jesus talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us." (Luke 24:31-32)</i>	NT	<i>Jesus Appears to His Two friends on the Road to Emmaus</i> (Luke 24:13-35)
5	10.5.2021	Forgiveness	<i>A third time he said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you!" He said to him, "Feed my sheep." (John 21:17)</i>	NT	<i>Jesus Appears to His Friends on the Beach</i> <i>The Miraculous Catch of Fish & Jesus Talks to Peter</i> (John 21:1-19)
6	17.5.2021	Jesus Returns to Heaven	<i>They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, whom you saw taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you saw him go." (Acts 1: 11)</i>	NT	<i>Jesus is Taken up Into Heaven</i> (Acts 1:6-11)



7	24.5.2021	The Coming of the Holy Spirit	<i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages by the power the Holy Spirit was giving them.</i> (Acts 2: 4)	NT	<i>The Coming of the Holy Spirit – the Birth of the Church</i> (Acts 2:1-6)
	WB 31.5.2021	HALF TERM HOLIDAY			

Additional Notes

- For Summer Term 1, we are following the stories of Jesus after the Resurrection, including Jesus' Ascension back to Heaven, to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Revd Carol has pointed us towards the stories and Bible verses for each week.
- Share with the children the Bible verse for the day, reminding them these stories and Bible verses are from the New Testament.
- For other daily acts of Class Worship, as we have been doing, continue to use a variety of stories and discussions. This could be an opportunity to read children some traditional Old and New Testament Bible stories to help them become more familiar with less known stories. Q. What is the moral of the story? Q What can we learn today about how we live our lives? Q. What does the story teach us about God?
- Every story/reading/discussion does not need to match exactly with the theme for that week.
- Revd Carol will continue to prepare a short weekly video to link with the theme of each week – to be shown during a Class Worship session.

Themes for Daily Acts of Class Worship

Summer Term 2 2021



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
1	7.6.2021	<p>All About Plants</p> <p>BIBLE READING: John 15 verses 1-8</p>	<p>Preparation Use some pots of growing plants as examples. Try to get them at different stages of development. Illustrations of vines can also be used.</p> <p>Introduction Read the passage from John and talk about how plants take sustenance from the earth and from the sunlight, in order to grow and prosper, and to be of use to people. They cannot grow in the dark nor must they be starved of input. Plants can be either useful as food or ornamental as flowers. Whatever we grow them for they need to be nurtured and tended carefully. Plants may lean on each other while they are growing but they do not fight or bully the other plants around them (unless they are jostling for space). In order to make the plant most fruitful, we cut away any deadwood, to give a better chance to the rest.</p> <p>The Message Children are very similar in that they need input from home, school and friends in order to grow into good citizens. Different children grow up into different adults and “serve different purposes”. We can grow up into fruitful lives by removing any ‘deadwood’ or errors that we make, or we can run wild until society cuts us down to make room for ‘better’ people. Jesus said that we are part of him, we are the branches of his vine. Life can be made easier if we remember that and behave as part of God’s creation. Where do we get our sustenance from? Are we growing good fruit?</p> <p>Prayer O, God, whose Son Jesus Christ cared for the welfare of everyone and went about doing good; grant us the ability and desire to create in our school and our community a loving and kind society; and help us to realise that we are part of God’s great design for the world. Grant this, O Lord, through the spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.</p>	<p>Also, this week there are other Biblical illustrations of how a life should be built / rooted:</p> <p>The builders – Luke chp 6 vss 47-49;</p> <p>The actions of the sheep and the goats – Matthew chp 25 vss 31-36;</p> <p>Psalm 1</p>



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
2	14.6.2021	<i>I Like to be Liked</i> BIBLE READING: John chapter 17 verses 6-19 especially verses 14-17	Preparation You could have some moral questions ready on the screen or posters if you wished (see Introduction). Introduction Begin by asking pupils to vote by show of hands what they would do in a number of moral situations e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you found a pound coin in the playground would you hand it in or keep it?• If you saw a younger child being bullied by your best friend would you stop them, join in, or report them?• If your sister said she didn't want anyone to read her secret diary, would you leave it alone, or read it on purpose? Here's a story about someone who had a difficult moral decision to make: The Message Craig was having a difficult time at his new school – he really hadn't made any proper friends yet, and he was feeling very lonely, especially at break times and lunchtimes when he went out into the playground and nobody seemed to want to play with him. Craig's teacher, Mr Howard, decided to try and help him out. He had a quiet word with Jamie, who sat next to Craig in class, and asked him to invite Craig to play with him and his friends. "He's not settled down yet" said Mr Howard, "just think how difficult it must be to move hundreds of miles from your old home and start all over again in a strange new school." Jamie agreed to help, and the next lunch time Craig was delighted to be asked to join in the game of football that was going on the field. Craig soon found out that Jamie and his new friends played a very tough game of football. "Kick him in the ankle", hissed Rocky, as Craig went to tackle the other team's striker. "Why didn't you trip him up?" screamed Jack, when Craig let a player outrun him. And then Craig watched in horror as Jamie and Rocky squashed the other team's goalie between them while the ball trickled over the goal line. The goalie sat on the ground groaning and massaging his bruised shin. That evening Craig was still wondering what he should do tomorrow lunch time when another football game had been planned. "I wish it would pour with rain tomorrow" he told his dog Crackers, then I could get out of the game." Crackers growled at the thought of rain.	Also, this week: look at some other stories of bravery: Daniel in the lion's den; the three men in the fiery furnace (also in Daniel); Paul and Silas in prison – Acts chp 16

"It's not that I'm afraid of getting hurt" said Craig, "or maybe just a bit, but I don't think it's right to be so nasty when you are playing football. It's against all the rules. Proper football shouldn't be like that!" The next day was just as bad; and whenever Craig got near the ball his team mates were screeching at him to hurt his opponent: "trip him", "belt him one", "thump him you idiot" came the calls. Craig tried to play his best and he tried to play properly, but it was hard to ignore all the yelling and screaming that was coming his way. At the end of the game Jamie came up to Craig. "Listen, stupid" he said "I only asked you to play with us because Mr Howard told me to. But we don't want you on our side unless you play properly."

Craig drew a deep breath.

"I think I am playing properly" he said "I'm playing exactly as I was taught at my old school. I'm playing fairly and I'm playing safely. I don't think it's right to be so mean and vicious, it's not sportsmanlike."

"Suit yourself" snapped Jamie "just don't expect to play with us again."

That evening Craig took Crackers for his walk in the park. He stopped to watch a few boys kicking a ball around. Craig recognised them as neighbours, although they didn't go to his school. Crackers barked with excitement as he saw the football and set off on a wild chase, dragging Craig off his feet. The footballers laughed as Craig picked himself out of the mud. "Do you want to join us?" one of them called "We're just having fun, the dog can play as well!"

"That's more like it" Craig thought "This is where I belong"

Ask the assembly what they would have done in Craig's place. Would they have played properly as he had done, or do they think they might have joined in with all their new friends and adopted unfair tactics? The key question here, is whether they would have stuck to their beliefs of what was right, even if it made them unpopular.

Although this was a story about football, it reminds us of what it is like to be a Christian. Sometimes Christians will be put in situations where they are expected to do something which they believe to be wrong, and they may have to decide between following God, or being popular with their friends. Ask the pupils if they can think of occasions when this might be the case. Sometimes Christians have had to make very serious choices indeed and have ended up being killed for following their beliefs in God instead of doing what powerful people have ordered them to do. Some of these people were later called saints.

Prayer

Pray that we may have the courage to always do what we know to be right, even if it is difficult.



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
3	21.6.2021	<p>Why Can't I See It?</p> <p>BIBLE READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1</p>	<p>Preparation You need to be ready to demonstrate things that cannot be seen but which we know are there e.g. gravity, the wind blowing, magnetism- these can be demonstrated with things like dropping stones or blowing feathers with hand pumps (or even one's own breath).</p> <p>Introduction Invite different children up to perform tasks related to the different items you have collected. Give the children a challenge to work out how all these things are linked – the thinking is that you cannot see why things happen as they do, because you cannot see anything pushing or grabbing the objects etc. You do know, however, that something like gravity always works in the same way e.g get ten children up to demonstrate dropping a stone and count how many times it drops upwards... without intervention of course!</p> <p>The Message In his letters, which are now in the Bible, Paul had the difficult task of explaining to people that he was preaching to them about something they couldn't touch or see but which he knew was there – just like gravity. He was telling them about God and Jesus, about heaven and faith, but although he knew and believed in his heart all these things were there, he couldn't just get them out and show them to people, just like you can't pick up a piece of the wind and give it to me. This is why some of Paul's letters seem so difficult to understand to us – you have to believe what he says, and then if you become a Christian you will know in your heart what he says is true, because you will feel it too. This is why some people find being a Christian very difficult – they say "show it to me"... and Christians can't – but they can believe it, and show how believing affects the way people talk and think and act.</p> <p>Prayer Dear Lord, Sometimes we find it difficult to understand the teaching about You and about Jesus. Help us not to give up because things aren't simple straight away, but to persevere in looking and thinking and asking questions. Amen.</p>	<p>Also this week – there are so many stories and verses about faith that could be used, e.g:</p> <p>Jesus and the temptation to act in the wrong way so that people would follow him more readily – Matthew chp 4 vss 1-11;</p> <p>the parable of the sower – Matthew chp 13 vss 1-23;</p> <p>fighting the good fight – I Timothy chp 6 vss11f;</p> <p>running the race – I Corinthians chp 9 vss24-27</p>



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
4	28.6.2021	What a Joke! BIBLE READING: Genesis 18:1-15 & 21:1-7	Preparation In the Introduction you are thinking about jokes so you need to either have some available (e.g. a whoopee cushion or similar) or have someone prepared to tell a joke – you will know who the stand-up comedians are amongst your pupils! There might be a bit of slapstick humour on a video you could show – whatever you have available. Introduction Start with your joke. Hopefully it will raise a laugh! Most people love jokes, don't they? Has anyone else got a really good joke that they think will make everyone here laugh? Hear a couple. The Message Our story today is about someone who heard the biggest joke of her whole life and laughed so much that she got told off! The lady's name was Sarah. Sarah was very old. She had not got any children, and she knew that she was now too old to have any. She had got used to it, but it made her sad because she had always wanted her own baby. Sarah and her husband Abraham were nomads, this meant they lived in tents and move from place to place with their sheep and goats. They liked having visitors, and if they saw any travellers passing their way they would invite them to stop and have a rest and give them a meal. One day three men came past and Abraham invited them to stop, just like he always did. Sarah rushed around cooking a nice meal for everyone, but suddenly she heard what the strangers were saying to her husband Abraham. One of the visitors was saying that next year Sarah would have a baby boy! Sarah thought this was just so funny! She laughed and laughed until great big tears were rolling down her cheeks. How on earth could she have a baby now ? It was far too late in her life for this to happen! Outside the tent the men could hear Sarah laughing away. "Is she laughing at us?" said the visitors. "No, no" said Sarah quickly, because she didn't want to upset them, " I wasn't laughing at all". "You were laughing" they said, "but, you wait, what we have said will come true, because it is a message from God". Sarah and Abraham must have talked about their strange visitors many times over the next few months, especially when, next Spring, Sarah realised she really was pregnant. When her baby boy was born Sarah was so happy that she felt she would laugh forever. So Abraham and Sarah decided they must call their son "Laughter", which in their language was "Isaac",	

			<p>just to remind them forever of the wonderful great joke that God had played on them. Abraham and Sarah had learnt that even things that seemed impossible were not too hard for God to do!</p>	
--	--	--	---	--

Prayer

Give thanks for all the things we can enjoy together and for the fun and laughter we can share.



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
5	5.7.2021	<p>Anyone Can Make A Difference</p> <p>BIBLE READING: 1 Samuel 17:1, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49</p>	<p>Preparation Collect a few newspapers with suitable stories/headlines, local and national. Find a map of the world and, if possible, the solar system.</p> <p>Introduction The story of David and Goliath lends itself to a dramatic re-telling with the teacher as narrator. Avoid too much historical detail as this will detract from the message of the worship. Read out a few newspaper headlines which outline some of people's/world problems. Show them how small Great Britain/the place where they live is in comparison to the world and how small the earth is in comparison to the solar system. Explain that sometimes it is easy to feel very small and helpless in the face of the world's problems. How can we do anything about them? Should we simply not try?</p> <p>The Message Tell/act out the story of David and Goliath. This, of course, leads on from last week's story of David's anointing. Explain that David, even though he was small and young, just like them, made a difference because he used his gifts and talents to help others. Concentrate on the positive message of the story rather than the defeat and death of poor Goliath! David was confident because he believed God was with him. Explain that even though we may feel very small in the eyes of the world (yes, even the teachers!), we are important in God's eyes and he cares for all of us and we must care for others.</p> <p>Prayer Perhaps begin with some quiet reflection considering how we can, in small ways, every day, help others. Dear Lord, we know that, with your help, we can make a difference. Help us to share a smile or give a helping hand today. Amen</p>	<p>Also, this week: use some of the teaching from the Sermon on the Mount to think about how God cares for everyone and how even something "small" can have a great effect e.g:</p> <p>Matthew chp 5 vss 13-16, chp 6 vss 25-34</p>

Themes for Daily Acts of Class Worship

Summer Term 2 2021



Week	Week Beginning	Theme / Key Idea	Preparation Introduction The Key Message Prayer	Possible Bible Stories
6	12.7.2021 Possibly used in Class Worship – NO Video from Revd Carol	Going On A Journey BIBLE READING: Mark 6:7-13	<p>Preparation Prepare the three readers for the Introduction. Lucy is about six, Mark is older.</p> <p>Introduction Starts with the three characters standing around a table. On the table is an open case. Lucy: Can't wait for the holiday. Mark: Can't wait to see the pool. Mum: Well, the holiday is next week, and I need to do the packing so let's have some help Lucy: I want to take Fred the Ted, and my big doll and my cassette player and my Barbie books and my bucket and spade and... Mark: And I want my football and my United kit and my boots and my United annual and my skateboard and a beach ball and... Mum: And I shall have to pack your underclothes, your swimming things, your shoes, your jeans, your shorts, your night clothes, your coats, towels, washing kit, suntan lotion, books, camera and ... Mark: Don't forget the mobile for 'phoning home... Lucy: And a pen for writing cards... Mark: And games to play on the plane... Lucy: And sandwiches in case we get hungry at the airport... Mark: And sunglasses... Lucy: And... Mum: I think we shall have to go and buy another case!</p> <p>Leader One day Jesus surprised his closest friends. Up to then they had spent their time with him. They had heard him speak to the crowds, seen him healing people and always felt that he was close by. Now Jesus told his twelve friends that they had a special job to do. They were to go out in pairs to speak to people about Jesus. Perhaps some of them started to think</p>	<p>Also, this week you could look at other verses about not worrying e.g.:</p> <p>Luke chp 12:22-32</p>

about what they would take with them. Going away always seems to be a bit like that. We want to take a lot of things just in case we think we might need them. Often when we come home again, we find we haven't used half of it. Money for food, a change of clothes, food in case they got hungry.

'No,' said Jesus, 'you are to take nothing with you at all. You are to trust me that all will be well. People will give you hospitality, and if they don't, just move on until you find someone who will.'" And all was well. The friends of Jesus went from village to village telling the people the good news about Jesus and healing people. They had a great time. They learned to trust Jesus. Sometimes you and I worry – not just about packing for a holiday but other things too. Jesus says don't worry so much but learn to trust me. Worries are like big suitcases we don't have to carry around.

This would be an opportunity to talk about children and adults who are moving on at the end of the school term, if you wish.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you that we can trust you in both the small things and the big things in life. Help us not to carry around big suitcases full of worry. Amen

Additional Notes

- For Summer Term 2, we are basing our Class Worship sessions loosely on the plans from the Diocese of Ely Education Department.
- Share with the children the Bible verse for the day, reminding them these stories and Bible verses are from the New Testament/Old Testament.
- For other daily acts of Class Worship, as we have been doing, continue to use a variety of stories and discussions. This could be an opportunity to read children some traditional Old and New Testament Bible stories to help them become more familiar with less known stories. Q. What is the moral of the story? Q What can we learn today about how we live our lives? Q. What does the story teach us about God?
- Every story/reading/discussion does not need to match exactly with the theme for that week.
- Revd Carol will continue to prepare a short weekly video to link with the theme of each week – to be shown during a Class Worship session (for weeks 1-5).
- **For our final week of term (Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th July), each class will be able to visit St. John's Church to take part in Prayer Space Activities.** In school, we can think about the *Going on a Journey* theme.
- **EYFS will be visiting Church to chat with Revd Carol and to have a look around. More details to follow.**