

Ministry of Jesus/Story of Zacchaeus Lesson Plan

Core Concept of Lesson: Everyone needs a friend, to feel included and welcomed. Jesus welcomed Zacchaeus and showed him friendship. Jesus expects us to be friendly and welcoming to others. Understanding our own and the feelings of others can help us to be better friends.

Learning Intentions: This lesson provides children with the opportunity to familiarise themselves with a story depicting the ministry of Jesus and to practise understanding and expressing a variety of emotions and feelings. The additional activities encourage children to experience the core concept of friendship through play, art, music, verbal expression, sequencing, cooperation and affirmation.

Connections:

To Revised Core Curriculum Syllabus in RE (Northern Ireland)

- Learning Objective 1: Revelation of God/The Life of Jesus/The Ministry of Jesus/Jesus' Teaching About Love, Forgiveness, Obedience

To "Living. Learning. Together." (Personal Development and Mutual Understanding)

- Strand 1: Personal Understanding and Health, Unit 2: Their Own and Others' Feelings and Emotions/Learning Intention: Recognise and manage a variety of feelings.
- Strand 2: Mutual Understanding in the Local and Wider Community, Unit 1: Relationships with Family and Friends/Learning Intention: Understand the importance of positive relationships with family and friends.

Duration: Lesson plan assumes a 45 min. session, but additional activities (provided) can be used to extend, if necessary.

Lesson Plan Details

Ministry of Jesus/Story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Stage	Aim/Purpose	Time	Procedure	Resources/ Materials
<i>Warming up</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> encourage children to think about 'friendship' 	5 min.	<p>Ask the following (or similar) questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who can tell me the name of his/her best friend? What are some things you like to do with your friends? Why do you think everyone needs a friend? 	
<i>Introduction</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to prepare the children to learn about the ministry of Jesus by hearing the story of Zacchaeus to introduce (or reinforce) vocabulary To continue to familiarise the children with the Bible/New Testament 	5 min.	<p>Ask the following questions, guiding the answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can anyone tell me what the word 'Gospel' means? '<i>Gospel</i>'—part of the Bible that tells us about Jesus and the things he said and did, and that the word means 'good news'. Does anyone know how many Gospels there are in the Bible? <p>Explain: Our story today comes from one of the Gospels, the Gospel of Luke.</p> <p>Show: A Bible, New Testament, Gospel of Luke, Chapter 19</p>	Bible

<p>Activity 1: Participative Storytelling</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To familiarise the children with a story about the ministry of Jesus • To encourage the children to think about Jesus and look at the world from the perspective of someone else (Zacchaeus) • To encourage the children to demonstrate their understanding of a variety of emotions and feelings • To encourage children to think creatively, logically, personally 	<p>15 min.</p>	<p>Explain: Today we're going to hear a story about someone who once had Jesus come to his house as his guest. This man was named Zacchaeus. I'm going to need you to help me tell the story, by showing what Zacchaeus was feeling all along the way.</p> <p>So, as I tell the story, I will stop and ask you to show me a feeling or an emotion.</p> <p>Practise: Let's have a practice: 'Zacchaeus was so <i>excited</i> to see Jesus.' Show me '<i>excited</i>.'</p> <p>Tell/Read the story 'Jesus is Coming', pausing at 'emotion' words (bold/italicized) and encouraging the children to act out the particular emotion or feeling.</p> <p>Ask some follow-up questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think happened next? • Do you think Zacchaeus did what he'd promised Jesus? • Do you think Zacchaeus understood friendship better after meeting Jesus? • How does it make you feel when you hear that Jesus wants to be our friend, just like he wanted to be Zacchaeus' friend? 	<p>"Jesus is Coming!" (PDF)</p>

<p>Activity 2: Friendship Game (or alternative)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To let the children practise being friendly/welcoming to others, encouraging positive relationships with others • To encourage inclusive and creative play • To help the children learn to recognise and manage their own feelings and consider the feelings of others 	<p>15 min.</p>	<p>Introduce: We're going to play a game that lets us be friendly and welcoming to others.</p> <p>Explain: We'll sit in a circle and I'll start. I'll choose someone in the circle and gently toss the bean bag to her/him. I'll say hello and that child's name, and then I'll tell him/her something that I like about him/her. For example: 'Hello, Kayleigh. I like the way you smile at people when they come into the classroom.' 'Hello, James. I like the way you make sure everyone has a turn when it's time for games.'</p> <p>Play: Until every child has had a chance to affirm and to be affirmed by at least one other person.</p> <p>Ask the following or similar questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it make you feel when someone says something good about you? • Did you find it easy or difficult to say something nice about another person? • How does it make you feel when someone says something mean to you? • When might someone need you to be extra friendly? 	<p>Small beanbag</p>
<p>Alternative Activity 2a: Worksheet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help children to remember order of story • To practise sequencing skills 	<p>15 min.</p>	<p>Explain: On this page, you'll see six different scenes from the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus, but they are out of order. After you colour in the pictures, you will cut them out and then try to put them in order. When everyone is finished, we will tell the story using these pictures.</p>	<p>Copies of Worksheet (PDF) scissors crayons</p>

<p>Alternative Activity 2b: Friendship Tree</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable children to work together on a common project, practising sharing and cooperation To enable creative expression of story To discuss with others what makes a good friend 	<p>15 min.</p>	<p>Prepare: Draw the outline of a simple tree with several large and many smaller branches on the poster paper. Cut out several leaf templates from the thick card.</p> <p>Connect to story: Ask the children to explain how it was that Zacchaeus finally managed to see Jesus (climbed up in tree).</p> <p>Make: Have the children search the old magazines to find pictures of friends/friendship and cut them out. Have the children use a leaf template (will involve sharing and cooperation) to draw a leaf for each of their pictures on the green card and cut them out. The friend pictures can be glued onto the green leaf cut out.</p> <p>Share: As the children bring their leaves to attach to the poster tree, have them explain why they chose the picture they did. How does it represent friendship to them?</p> <p>Display: Hang the poster where children can see it and be reminded of Jesus, Zacchaeus and friendship. Can be used as an aid for the plenary discussion.</p>	<p>old magazines</p> <p>scissors</p> <p>glue sticks</p> <p>thick card</p> <p>green coloured card</p> <p>white poster paper</p> <p>leaf templates</p>
<p>Alternative Activity 2c: Music</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reinforce memory of Bible story To introduce music to lesson (interdisciplinary element) 	<p>15 min.</p>	<p>Teach: words to “Zacchaeus was a Wee Little Man” (hand motions or actions can be improvised)</p> <p>Sing along to You Tube Clip, downloaded music, instrumental accompaniment, or unaccompanied</p>	<p>YouTube clip: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkd-QFD7vMA</p> <p>Song sheet (PDF)</p> <p>Sheet music (PDF)</p>

Plenary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reinforce the core concepts of the lesson 	5 min.	<p>Show: Power Point Presentation and have the children summarise the story of Zacchaeus through describing each of the slides.</p> <p>Alternative: Use the worksheet pictures (Alt. Activity 2a) to help the children review the story of Zacchaeus.</p> <p>Alternative: Use the friendship tree poster (Alt. Activity 2b) to jog memories about the story of Zacchaeus and the meaning of friendship.</p> <p>Ask: Who can remind me what a good friend is/does? Who can tell me how Jesus was a friend to Zacchaeus?</p>	<p>PPT Presentation (PPT)</p> <p>or</p> <p>Completed worksheets</p> <p>Completed Friendship Tree Poster</p>
Success Criteria	<p>Children are able to recall the basic sequence of events of the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus.</p> <p>Children will have been introduced to the positive idea that Jesus intends to be their friend too.</p> <p>Children are able to express a variety of emotions and feelings.</p> <p>Children are able to play/work together in a positive atmosphere in which all are welcomed and included.</p>			