

Key Stage 2 : Year 3

Old Testament: In the Beginning....

Genesis 1 - 2:4

The Hebrew account of creation with which the Bible begins is a prologue to the history of God's relationship with humanity as expressed through the people of Israel. On reading the ancient chronicle described in the first five books of the Old Testament, which in Jewish scripture is contained in the Torah, it seems that what is presented is a chronological structure, continuously written. In its final form, this is what it becomes but all of the stories in it arose from ancient oral traditions, in existence centuries before they appeared in written form and now attributed to a number of sources. Biblical scholars suggest that the creation narrative was written after the exile in Babylon.

Although, for some believers, these primeval stories are interpreted literally, they are generally recognised as meaning - making stories or myths. Myths express profound and universal truths rather than confining themselves to what might be literally true. They are many-layered stories which have to be approached openly. It is not possible to identify definitive meanings; they express deep insights into the mysteries of human existence and experience; they reveal profound and timeless truths.

Lesson 1

* *If possible take pupils into an area that can be effectively darkened and talk about what absolute darkness might be like. If it is appropriate, an atmosphere might be created using suitable music.*

In the beginning, before the earth was made, it was very dark, much darker than this. There was water. (**Play music. Fade it.*)

God was there and God said "Let there be light" and immediately light appeared. This was exciting and God was pleased. He called the light 'day' and the darkness 'night' and that was the first day.

On the second day, God organised the water and made a huge dome which he called the sky. It was wonderful.

Then God decided to organise the water a bit more and make some land. God called it earth and made plants grow on it. This was really good. Another day had passed.

God decided the light needed organising so he made a huge sun to give light in the day and a moon to give light at night. He made stars and he hung them all in the sky. What a magnificent sight. God was pleased with another day's work.

On the fifth day, God decided the world needed some living creatures so he filled the sky with birds and the sea with fishes of all kinds. It took him another day to make the animals and the people and when he had finished, he blessed his creation. He was delighted with it; it all fitted so well together. It was perfect and very beautiful.

On the seventh day, God rested. It had been a busy time but the whole universe was completed. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, a day of rest.

And that is how the story says the universe was created.

(*Play a few seconds more of the recorded music and fade).

For discussion:

What do you think about that story?

Where could you find it if you wanted to read it for yourself?

Why do you think it was written?

How does it make you feel when you look at the stars on a clear night?

What is threatening the perfection of creation today?

What can you do about it?

Lesson 2

- * *Show pupils a photograph of the earth taken from space and talk about it.*

How does it make you feel to see the earth like this?

What do we know about the universe and about space?

How does the story of creation in the Bible fit into all of this?

How did you feel when you looked up at the stars? It's impossible for us to have any real understanding of the size of the universe. It's too vast. We can only wonder at it and we shall never know all its secrets. Despite all that science tells us about the stars that we can see, there is a sense of mystery about it all. How do you begin to explain infinity, which means going on for ever, without coming to an end?

Just imagine how it would have been to know very little about the universe. How would you make sense of the great mystery of creation? The story in the Book of Genesis, the first story in the Bible, is an attempt to explain something which, in ancient times, people did not understand. They believed in a Creator God and the story is a way of imagining how God might have made the universe.

Some people believe it really happened like that. For them the story is literally true. Other people, who believe God created life, see the story as one that is full of truth although it is not a story that is historical at all. They believe God loves the world and for them, that is the most important truth of all.

For discussion:

What other truths are there in the story?

Think about the perfection of creation.

In what ways is creation perfect?

What is there in the world which is not perfect?

What can you think of that goes on forever?

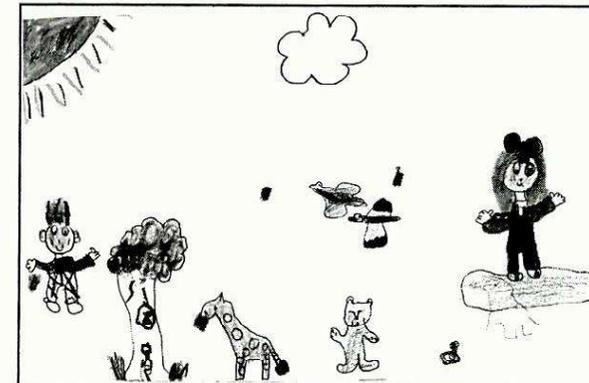
Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

IN THE BEGINNING

Number of lessons: 2

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>LEARN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ the song <i>How little I am in it all</i> <p>TALK ABOUT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ what we can do to maintain the perfection of creation and present your group's ideas to the rest of the class in some way. 	<p>DRAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a storyboard of the Genesis story of creation, either individually or as a class. 	<p>FIND OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ how people explain evil in the world, e.g.: <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Adam and Eve</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Pandora's Box</p>

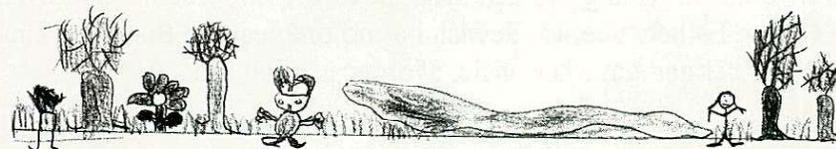


Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	ECOLOGICAL RESPONSIBILITY
Christians believe God: ▷ created heaven and earth ▷ was present right at the beginning	Religion: ▷ helps people to find meaning ▷ is a way of explaining the mysteries of life	There is profound truth in stories	valuing: ▷ truth ▷ mystery ▷ the wonders of creation	How did the universe first begin? What is God's relationship with the world?	The world, as God's creation, needs to be cherished and respected.
IN THE BEGINNING					
Skills				Exploration of Human Experience	
USE OF LANGUAGE	USE OF LANGUAGE	REASONED ARGUMENT	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	DAILY EXPERIENCE
Creation holy mystery	Exploring: the nature of myth	Should the seventh day remain a day of rest?	What can I do to maintain the perfection of creation? What do I believe about creation?	Of: ▷ awe ▷ wonder ▷ sharing a story	It is natural: ▷ to take our world for granted.

Resources:

for the song 'How little I am in it all', see: *Faith, Folk and Charity* (1976) Galliard Ltd p2.



Key Stage 2 : Year 3

Old Testament: Esther

The Book of Esther, written in the second century BC/BCE, is found in the Old Testament. It is the only book which does not mention God. It is set in the context of severe Jewish persecution at the hands of the Persians, the dominant power in the contemporary world, though there is no historical foundation for the story. It has come into the Jewish canon as the legendary basis for the celebration of the Festival of Purim.

Lesson 1

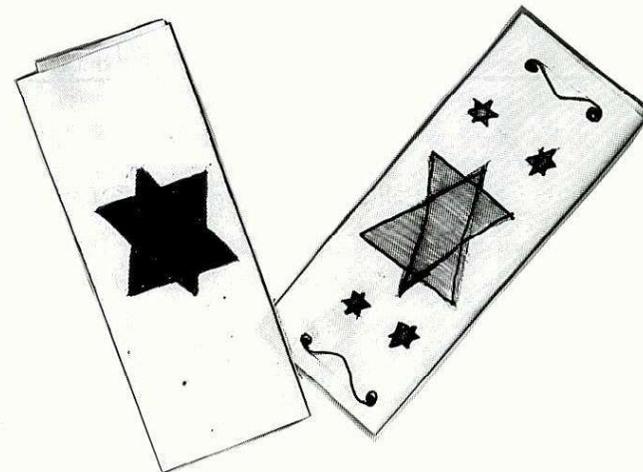
This is a story about a young woman who was very brave. It is a religious story, although it is not about God. Jewish people read it in a scroll called the Magillah. You can find it in the Old Testament of the Bible.

Long, long ago the Persian Emperor, whose name was King Xerxes, was very angry with his wife, the Queen. He had commanded her to come to the court where the king's guests were feasting because he wanted to show her off to them, but she refused. King Xerxes was not used to being disobeyed. Anyway, there was a danger that when they heard about what the Queen had done, all the women in his great kingdom would disobey their husbands. So the king decided to banish the Queen and choose another wife. He also sent out a proclamation to every corner of the enormous kingdom saying that every husband should be the master of his home and speak with authority.

Out of all the young women brought to the king for his approval, he chose Esther. She was Jewish but no one realised that. The king married her and gave her uncle, Mordecai, a job too.

One day Mordecai overheard two men plotting to kill the king. He warned King Xerxes and when the story was found to be true, the king commended Mordecai. He had saved the king's life. But not everyone liked Mordecai. Haman, the prime minister, who liked to think he was very, very important, ordered that people should bow to him to show their respect. Mordecai refused. He was a Jew and he would only worship God, he said. Haman was furious and he made plans to kill every Jew in the kingdom.

He organised a lottery to decide when it should happen and in preparation he persuaded the king to issue an order to kill the



foreigners. Haman promised the king this action would bring him a great deal of money. On the decided day the king's proclamation was released.

"On the 13th day of the month," it said, "all Jews, men, women and children are to be killed and their property taken." When the proclamation reached the towns and cities in the kingdom, the people couldn't believe it. Surely it couldn't be true.

For discussion:

What do you think will happen?

What would you do if you received an instruction like that?

Where in the world today are people treated badly because of what they believe?

What do you think of the king's first proclamation in the story?

Lesson 2

Esther decided she had to do something to save her people. Her uncle Mordecai was beside himself with grief. Esther told him to gather together all the Jews who lived in the royal city and to pray for her and to fast for three days. Esther did the same and after three days she put on her royal robes and went to the king. No one ever went to the king unless they were summoned by him, so Esther took a deep breath as she stood before him. What she was doing was against the law and she could die. But the king greeted her warmly and promised to grant her anything she asked.

"If it please Your Majesty," she said, "I would like to invite you and Haman to a banquet tonight."

It was all arranged and Haman, who had no idea what Esther was up to, was delighted. He wasn't so pleased when Mordecai failed to kneel as he went out of the palace and Haman went home promising himself that he would kill that Jew himself when the time came. He built a gallows especially for the job.

The banquet went well and Esther invited the king and Haman to dine with her again the next evening. In the meantime, the king remembered how Mordecai had saved his life and decided to honour him.

"What should I do to honour a man?" the king asked his prime minister and Haman, thinking the king meant him, gave a long list of the things he would have loved to have for himself. He was furious when he realised just whom the king was planning to honour, but Haman had to dress Mordecai in all the finery he had expected for himself. Haman was beside himself with anger and embarrassment.

At the banquet the king again asked his beloved Queen what it was that she wanted from him.

"If it please Your Majesty," Queen Esther replied, "my wish is that I and my people may live. We have been betrayed and are about to be slaughtered."

"Who dares to do such a thing?" asked the King angrily.

"Haman, who is our enemy."

There was a silence in the court as everyone waited for the king's reply.

"Hang him," ordered King Xerxes. So they took Haman away and hanged him on his own gallows.

For discussion:

What do you think about what happened to Haman?

What do you think God has to do with this story?

What do you think the word 'honour' means?

Whom do you honour?



Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

ESTHER

Number of lessons: 2

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ a Magillah (a scroll) telling the story of Esther in words or pictures <p>'HOT SEAT'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ the different characters - one pupil is a character and the others can ask questions which they must answer in role	<p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ a list of words to describe Esther▷ a list of words to describe Haman	<p>FIND OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ where people are being persecuted in the world today because of their beliefs

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE						
Concepts			Attitudes			
BELIEFS	IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION	MORALITY	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	ENQUIRY	SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES	TOLERANCE
For believers, God: ▷ protects ▷ answers prayer ▷ is to be worshipped	Religion: ▷ gives people a sense of identity ▷ sets people apart from each other	It is wrong ▷ to persecute people ▷ to punish anyone unjustly	are built on: ▷ trust ▷ loyalty	How should wicked people be punished? Why are some people persecuted?	I can: ▷ put others first ▷ be open to people who are different from me	People have a right to: ▷ be themselves ▷ receive respect
ESTHER						
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience			
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES		EMOTIONS	
authority Jews honour	with those who ▷ are threatened ▷ have to be brave ▷ are guilty of crimes	Whom do I sometimes want to hurt? When am I an enemy? Who helps me when I am in trouble? Whom do I honour?	of: ▷ belonging ▷ being different ▷ being saved from danger		anger grief fear relief joy	

Key Stage 2 : Year 3

New Testament: John the Baptist

Matthew 3: 1-12, Mark 1: 1-8, Luke 3: 1-20, John 1: 19-28

John the Baptist, second cousin of Jesus, is the prophet of the New Testament who heralds the coming of the promised Messiah. His message echoes that of the Old Testament prophets, Isaiah, Elijah and Malachi. All four gospel writers acknowledge the importance of John the Baptist. Mark chooses to begin his testimony with John and Luke goes to great lengths to date this episode in the life of Jesus to the fifteenth year of the reign of the Emperor Tiberius, about the year 28 AD/CE. John's message was one of coming judgement, for which people should prepare through repentance and baptism. He proclaimed the imminent coming of someone far greater than he, who would baptise with fire and the spirit of God. These lessons give pupils the opportunity to consider the impact of an impressive person and to reflect on the significance of promises.

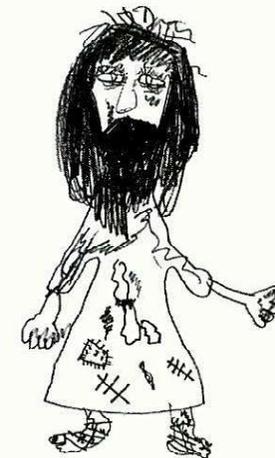
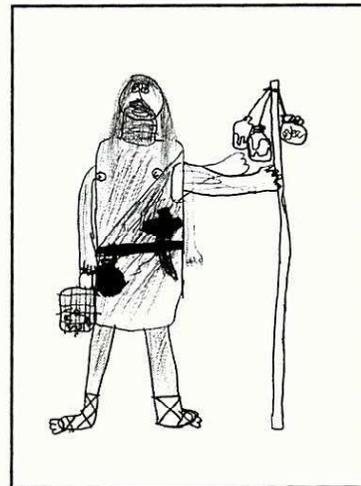
Lesson 1

This is the story of a man who lived at the same time as Jesus. His mother and Jesus' mother were cousins so the men probably knew each other well.

His name was John. His name had been given to him when he was a baby by an angel so no one argued with that. When he became a man, John became a hermit. He lived alone in a wild, desert place, away from everyone. He looked wild himself, with his rough clothes and his beard. He lived on locusts and honey. Perhaps it was his appearance that made people notice him at first. When he began to come into the towns in Judaea and into the city of Jerusalem, they certainly stared. However, very soon, it was what he was saying that made people look at him and they listened too. John told people God wanted them to change, to live good lives and as a sign of that new start, he dipped them in the River Jordan.

“Repent! Turn away from your sins and live a better life,” he cried.
“Come and be baptized and God will forgive your sins.”

Crowds of people came to see this wild-looking man and to listen to his words and many were impressed. They called him John the Baptist or John the Baptiser and they said he was a prophet. The Jews hadn't had a prophet for more than four hundred years and



they were ready to listen. John fulfilled their expectations. Many of them were ready to be baptised as a sign that they were 'washing away' their bad habits and turning to a new way of living.

One day a group of priests from the Temple came to see what John was doing. They had heard a lot about him.

"You snakes!" John said to them. "What are you doing here? It's no good trying to run away from God's punishment. God is ready to cut down trees that don't bear fruit."

"Well, what are we to do then?" someone called out from the crowd.

"Be fair," John answered. "Share your wealth with the poor and don't cheat anyone."

This was not a message the priests liked to hear and they went off angrily, plotting between themselves as to how they could get rid of John.

For discussion:

Why do you think the priests didn't like John?

What is it about people that makes you notice them?

What would you most like to change in your life?

Lesson 2

* *Begin by sharing the children's pictures of John the Baptist and talk about the kind of person he was.*

John kept on telling the people who flocked to listen to him that he wasn't at all important himself. He had come to tell them about

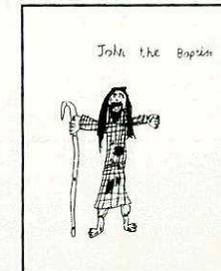
someone far greater than he, a man whose sandals John was not fit to untie. Who could that be? John was telling the world about Jesus.

One day Jesus himself came to be baptised by John in the River Jordan. John couldn't really believe it. He certainly didn't feel good enough to baptise Jesus but Jesus insisted. It was the beginning of a new public life for Jesus. As he was baptised he heard God speaking to him and knew that he must begin God's work.

But the end soon came for John. He had upset too many important people, especially the king. He was arrested and thrown into prison. The king wanted to kill him but he was afraid to do so because the Jewish people believed John was a prophet. So John suffered in prison.

It was a thoughtless promise that finally brought him to his death. The king's stepdaughter had entertained the royal court with her dancing and when she had finished, the king promised to give her anything she asked for. To the king's dismay, what she asked for was the head of John the Baptist. He'd upset her mother and this was a wonderful way to get revenge on her mother's behalf. It was embarrassing for the king but he'd made the promise and he had to go through with it.

So John was killed and his head was given to the girl, who gave it to her mother. John's friends buried his body and cried for him, but John died knowing his work had been done.



For discussion:

What do you think John's work was?

Why did the king kill John even though he didn't want to?

Was he right to keep his promise?

How do you behave when someone upsets you?

What's it like when you say something and then wish you hadn't?

What other stories can you think of where people have made promises and then regretted them?

Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Number of lessons: 2

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ a class collage of the different events of John's life	<p>DRAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ your own picture of John the Baptist <p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ an acrostic on JOHN THE BAPTIST▷ a newspaper account of the death of John the Baptist▷ an account of your time in prison, as if you were John the Baptist	<p>FIND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ and read the story of John the Baptist in the Bible▷ out about another prophet who was unpopular with authority

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE							
Concepts					Attitudes		
BELIEFS	COMMITMENT	MORALITY	FORGIVENESS	SYMBOLS	ENQUIRY	FORGIVENESS	TOLERANCE
Christians believe God: ▷ wants people to live good lives ▷ used John speak to the people ▷ punishes those who do not live a good life	John committed himself to God's service	It is right to: ▷ share wealth. It is wrong to: ▷ kill another human being ▷ seek revenge ▷ make thoughtless promises	Forgiveness can be given through baptism	Being dipped in water is a sign of a new start	How are we forgiven today? Is John's message still applicable today?	I can be: ▷ given a new start	People have a right to: ▷ preach what they believe. ▷ commit themselves publicly to what they believe
JOHN THE BAPTIST							
Skills				Exploration of Human Experience			
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCE	DAILY EXPERIENCE
baptised prophet promise sins repent	with those who ▷ need forgiveness ▷ have to make difficult decisions ▷ give their lives for what they believe	What is it about people that makes me notice them? What would I like to change in my life? When have I promised something which I then regretted?	REFLECTION	of ▷ forgiveness ▷ certainly	revenge embarrassment anger	It is natural to: ▷ make mistakes ▷ need forgiveness	DAILY EXPERIENCE

Key Stage 2 : Year 3

New Testament: Healing the Paralysed Man

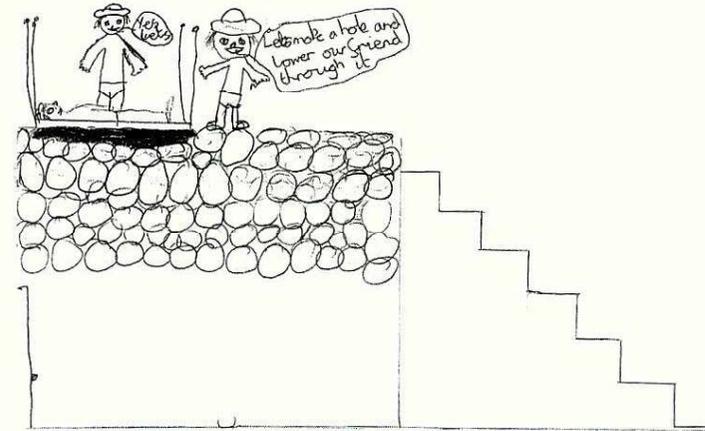
Matthew 9: 1-8, Mark 2: 1-12, Luke 5: 17-26

This account of the miraculous healing of the paralysed man occurs in all three of the synoptic gospels. Contemporary belief among Jews linked sickness directly with sin; it was considered that illness was a punishment and recovery came only after forgiveness was granted by God. Jesus' declaration that the man's sins were forgiven proclaimed an authority that was blasphemous to the establishment. Almost in defiance of their challenge, Jesus' healing of the man confronts the assumptions of the lawyers and is the beginning of a long series of events in which the tension builds up between Jesus and the religious authorities. This lesson adds to pupils' repertoire of stories about Jesus and offers an opportunity to explore the meaning of blasphemy.

Lesson

This is a story about something Jesus did one day which amazed everyone who saw it happen.

Jesus was making quite a name for himself as a speaker. He used to tell stories as part of his preaching and some people said he healed the sick in amazing ways. He travelled all over the country and his fame went before him. So when he came home to Capernaum, where everyone knew him well, the news spread very quickly and people descended on the friend's house where Jesus was staying. Soon you just couldn't have got another person in. The house was bulging with people, all listening attentively to what he was saying, although they weren't all friendly. Some of the important religious people were alarmed at his popularity and at what he said and did and they had come to keep an eye on Jesus.



One man was disappointed. He couldn't walk and he desperately wanted to see Jesus. His friends had carried him to the house but when they got there they could see it was hopeless. They stopped and thought....there was only one thing they could do and it **might** just work.

They carried their friend onto the flat roof of the house and removed some of the roof itself so that they could lower the man down on his mat until he lay in front of Jesus.

Jesus saw how much faith they had and he said, "My son, your sins are forgiven." The important religious people who were there didn't like that. Only God could forgive sins, they said and they accused Jesus of blasphemy.

Jesus knew what they were thinking and he said, "Is it easier to tell this man his sins are forgiven or to instruct him to get up and walk? I will prove to you that I have the authority to forgive sins."

They soon knew what Jesus meant when he turned to the paralysed man and said, "I tell you, get up, pick up your mat and go home."

And in front of their eyes, the man who couldn't walk got up, rolled up his mat and hurried away. Everyone was completely amazed.

"We've never seen anything like this!" they said.

For discussion:

What do you think the man would have done after hurrying away?

How might he have felt?

What does blasphemy mean?

What did Jesus say that was thought of as blasphemous?

What do people say today that is blasphemous?

Why were the religious people so angry?

When have you helped a friend?

What does this story tell us about the importance of friends?

What have you ever seen that has amazed you?

How does it feel to be forgiven?

Prayer of forgiveness.

*Forgive all my sins, please Lord
forgive me,*

*I know I have done wrong, but forgive
me,*

*Please clear my mind from guilt and
all my bad memories,*

Lord forgive what I have done,

Amen.

Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

HEALING THE PARALYSED MAN

Number of lessons: 1

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>ACT OUT</p> <p>▷ a conversation between one member of the important religious people and a member of the crowd who was amazed</p>	<p>LIST</p> <p>▷ all the ways that you can help your friends</p> <p>WRITE</p> <p>▷ a prayer asking for forgiveness</p> <p>▷ what the healed man might have said to Jesus after being healed</p>	<p>FIND OUT</p> <p>▷ about other times when Jesus healed someone</p>

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	COMMITMENT	FORGIVENESS	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY
For Christians, Jesus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ has authority to forgive sins ▷ healed a paralysed man ▷ could discern people's faith 	The religious people were blinded by their tradition. The paralysed man was healed because of his faith.	Christians believe Jesus forgives sins	are built on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ caring for friends ▷ responding to another's needs in a practical way ▷ trust 	valuing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ openness ▷ inventiveness ▷ the inexplicable ▷ loyalty 	How was the man healed? Why do people suffer?
HEALING THE PARALYSED MAN					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	
sins blasphemy	with those who <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ need healing ▷ need to be inventive ▷ have no friends 	How can I help my friends? How can I be open to everyone's experience?	of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ healing ▷ loyalty 	curiosity satisfaction anger mistrust jubilation wonder	

Key Stage 2 : Year 3

New Testament: Parable of the Wedding Feast

Matthew 22: 1-14, Luke 14: 15-24

In Jesus' time a wedding feast was a great celebration; people would come for miles and preparations would be considerable. It was seen by the Jewish people as a way of worshipping God.

In this parable Jesus used the idea of a wedding feast to explain what the Kingdom of Heaven might be like. Christian teaching interprets the story as an indication that all are invited into the Kingdom of Heaven, but it is only those who respond appropriately who will be accepted and the least important people will become the most important.

Lesson 1

This is a story Jesus told about a king who sent out wedding invitations to his friends. In this story, which is in the part of the Bible called the New Testament, Jesus is giving people one idea about the Kingdom of Heaven and what it might be like.

Once there was a king who was preparing a great feast to celebrate his son's wedding. Preparations for the great event had been long and elaborate. When all was ready he sent out invitations to the friends in his kingdom, but they were busy and didn't want to come. So he sent out his servants with the message that his feast was ready, but his invitation was again ignored. They had too much to do and went about their business. Some even beat and killed the servants.

The king was very angry. The people that I have invited do not deserve to be here, he thought, so he sent his servants out once more. This time they went out onto the streets and invited everyone they met and the party went with a swing. But when the king joined in he noticed one man who wasn't dressed for a wedding so he instructed his servants to throw him out.

"You see," Jesus told his listeners, "lots of people are invited but not everyone is chosen."



For discussion:

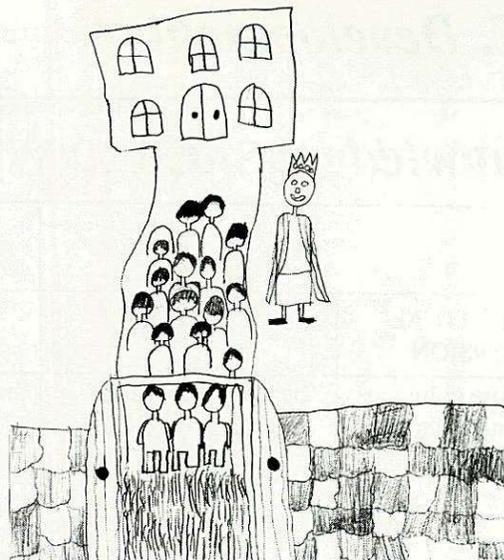
What sort of people do you think the king would have invited?

What do you think about the king throwing someone out?

How would you feel if you had invited people to a party and they didn't come?

Jesus was showing the people how easy it is to get too caught up in their own lives to the extent that they sometimes forget the important things of life. What are the important things in your life?

What is Jesus saying in this story?



Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST

Number of lessons: 1

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
DRAMATISE ▷ the story	MAKE an invitation to a celebration DESIGN ▷ a party menu	FIND OUT ▷ about Jewish weddings

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	SYMBOLS	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	ENQUIRY	SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
Christians believe God: ▷ turns the values of the world upside down in the Kingdom of Heaven	There is more to life than self-importance and wealth	The story as a symbol	are built on: ▷ responses ▷ trust	What does the story mean?	I can: ▷ respond ▷ remember
PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	
Kingdom of Heaven	with those who: ▷ are not invited ▷ are turned away ▷ are not chosen	What are the important things in my life?	of ▷ being included ▷ listening	pride determination satisfaction	

Key Stage 2 : Year 4

Old Testament: Daniel

The Book of Daniel is set in the time of the Jewish exile in Babylon around 586 BC/BCE though it is thought to have been written much later. It falls into 2 distinct parts; the story of Daniel comes first, offering a model of steadfastness and faith in the face of persecution and suffering. In the second part of the book is a series of visions predicting the fall of the oppressors and the restoration of the people of Israel to their own land. The writer is seeking to offer hope in desperate situations. Daniel is a dreamer; his gift of interpreting dreams gives him great credibility with the king and leads ultimately to an official recognition of the God he worships, despite all attempts to undermine his faith.

This story speaks strongly of the power of dreams, the importance of personal commitment and the mystery of the transcendent.

Lesson 1

This is the story of a young man who got himself thrown to the lions. Can you imagine what that would be like?

But this story of Daniel begins a long time before the lions' den.

Daniel was a Jew living with the rest of his people in exile in a foreign country. Their homeland had been conquered by one of their enemies, a big, powerful king called King Nebuchadnezzar, who had taken all the Jewish people back with him to his country.

The king looked over these strong, hardworking people he had captured and he decided to train some of the young ones for royal service. Daniel was chosen. He was handsome, fit and intelligent. He would make a good servant, the king thought. So the long training began. Three years it was going to take but Daniel wasn't alone. The king had chosen other young men too and when the training was complete, all the trainee servants came before the king. He chose four of them to become members of his court and

Daniel was amongst the chosen ones.

One day, during the second year of his reign, King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. It was a worrying dream, a nightmare really, but the most worrying part of all for the king was that he couldn't remember the dream. He sent for his fortune tellers and magicians and instructed them to tell him what his dream was and then to explain to him what it meant.

"If Your Majesty will tell us your dream, we will interpret it for you," they said, not unreasonably, you may think. But the king wouldn't budge. They had to tell him the dream as well, otherwise they would be torn limb from limb. When they protested that this was impossible they were dismissed to await their execution. The king, in a rage, ordered that all his advisers should be executed and that included Daniel.

When he heard what had happened Daniel and his Jewish friends prayed and that night Daniel too had a dream. God revealed the king's dream to him and Daniel praised God.

"I praise you and honour you, God of my ancestors!" he exclaimed. "You have given me wisdom and strength. You have answered my prayer and shown me what to tell the king." But would the king listen?

For discussion:

Why do you think the king was worried about a dream he couldn't remember?

What is it like to know you've had a dream and not to be able to remember it?

When have you had a dream that worried you?

What can dreams tell us?

Lesson 2

How do you think Daniel felt as he went to the king with the answer to this problem?

Well, Daniel guessed that the king would be all ears once he knew someone was offering to solve the mystery for him and he was right.

"Can you really tell me my dream and what it means?" asked the king eagerly.

"Your majesty," replied Daniel, "no magician and fortune teller could possibly tell you what you dreamed. Only God can do that; God has given you a message about the future and I am here to tell it to you."

Daniel went on to describe the king's dream. In it he saw an enormous statue made of silver and gold with feet made of clay. A great boulder fell from a cliff in the dream and it hit the feet of the statue, shattering them. At once the statue crumbled to dust and the boulder grew to be a great mountain.

"This is what your dream means, Your Majesty," Daniel told the king. "You are the great golden head of the statue and the body and legs are the kingdoms that will come after yours. But one day there will be a king so weak that the kingdom will be destroyed and God will establish a new kingdom that will last forever, like the mountain."

The king was so pleased with Daniel that he promoted him, putting him in charge of all the royal advisers. Then the king ordered that a huge golden statue should be made, 27 metres tall, and he instructed everyone to bow down and worship it.

Daniel's Jewish friends refused. They worshipped God alone, they insisted and when the king heard about them he was furious. Anyone who didn't do the king's bidding was to be thrown into the furnace. The young men still refused to worship the statue.

"Into the furnace with them!" the king ordered, his face red with anger, "and make the fire seven times hotter!" he yelled. He made the three strongest men in his army tie up the three young men and throw them into the blazing furnace. The flames were so hot that the guards were burnt up but, to the king's astonishment, the three men walked in the flames, unharmed. Three men? The king couldn't believe his eyes. He could see four figures in the fire.

"Come out," he called to them and they walked out of the white hot flames. "Praise to God! God sent an angel to save you. Never again must anyone speak ill of this God. You risked your lives rather than worship another. There is no other God like this."

For discussion:

What do you think about the story?

*Daniel's friends had to stand up for what they believed.
Why was that difficult?*

*When is it difficult for you to keep to something you
believe is right?*

What would you have done if you had been the king?

What makes a good king or queen?

Lesson 3

In this story some amazing things have happened and there's more to come.

The king was eventually succeeded by his son who was called Belshazzar. He enjoyed the good things in life and had many parties. One was more memorable than any other. This was to be the biggest, most lavish party that he had ever thrown. He wanted it to be a really special evening so they took out all the goblets and vessels that his father had taken from the Temple at Jerusalem.

"Let's see if our wine tastes any different in these holy vessels," he sneered. As he lifted the glass to his mouth the wall at one end of the room began to glow with an unnatural light. Suddenly a human hand appeared before the wall and began to write into the plaster. All the court advisers and magicians were sent for. The king promised great wealth and honour for anyone who could decipher the writing. Once again it was Daniel who was summoned.

In front of a hushed crowd he began, "God made your father, Nebuchadnezzar, a great leader, with supreme power and majesty, but he became greedy and proud. By using the cups taken from his temple you have scorned God. God has sent the hand to write this message. It says 'number, weight, division'. This means that your days are numbered; you have been weighed on the scale and been found too light and your kingdom will be divided. In short, God has decided to end your kingdom."

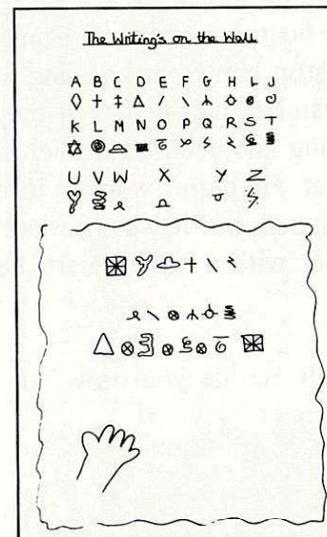
On that very night the king was killed and Babylon was occupied by the Persians. That was the end of the Babylonian Empire.

For discussion:

What would it have been like to be a guest at Belshazzar's Feast?

*The king was trying to show off in front of his guests.
When have you ever tried to show off?*

Why do we show off?



Lesson 4

Daniel managed to keep his job in the royal court even though the kings came and went quite quickly. By this time in the story, there was a new king called Darius. He was called Darius the Great, King of Persia. He was impressed with Daniel and put him in charge of all his officials. No one was very pleased at the thought of having a Jewish boss so the king's advisers plotted to get rid of Daniel. The trouble was that Daniel was very good at his job and he was so loyal that it was difficult to discredit him.

Then someone had an idea. They knew that Daniel prayed every day. In fact, he prayed three times every day. This might be a way to catch him. The advisers went to the king and first they flattered him.

"Your Majesty," they said, "you are most powerful and great. You can do all things and you deserve to be worshipped. Issue an order that, for thirty days, no one must pray to any god save Your Majesty. Anyone who breaks this decree shall be thrown to the lions."

The king signed the decree and thought no more about it. Daniel learned about the new law but it didn't stop him from kneeling at his window and praying. His enemies watched him and then they pounced. They dragged him off to the king and accused Daniel of disobeying the law. King Darius was upset. He didn't want to lose Daniel and he realised how he'd been trapped, but it was too late. He had to go through with the threat. So, with a heavy heart, he escorted Daniel to the lions' pit.

"May the God whom you serve so loyally rescue you now," the king said to Daniel.

The lions roared. Daniel was flung into the pit and the stone was pulled across to cover the entrance so that Daniel could not escape.

The king didn't sleep that night. He didn't eat either. In the morning, as soon as it was light, the king hurried to see what had happened. He called out to Daniel and to his great joy and relief, a voice answered him from the pit. Daniel was safe.

"Long live Your Majesty," exclaimed Daniel. "God sent his angels to protect me from the lions."

Daniel was pulled out of the pit and his accusers were thrown in and King Darius sent out another proclamation to all the corners of his kingdom.

For discussion:

What do you think the proclamation said?

What would you have said?

What do people mean when they say they're like Daniel in the lion's den?

In what ways might you find yourself in the lions' den?

What is it like to be wrongfully punished?

What does it mean to serve someone loyally?

To what or whom do you give your loyalty?

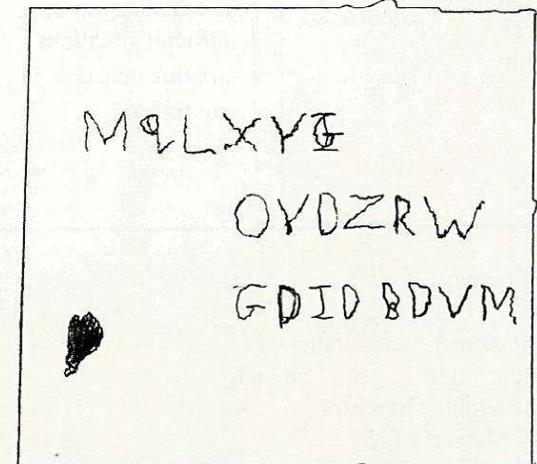
Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

DANIEL

Number of lessons: 4

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a collage of a pair of scales and gather good and bad qualities to put on the scales <p>LISTEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ to part of 'Belshazzar's Feast' by Walton 	<p>MAKE UP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a code and send a secret message <p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ about the dreams that you have had that perhaps have worried you ▷ an account of Belshazzar's Feast as if you were one of the guests 	<p>EXPLORE AND ILLUSTRATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ sayings such as 'the writing is on the wall' and 'going into the lions' den' <p>EXPLAIN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ where they come from.



Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	MORALITY	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	TOLERANCE
In the story, God: ▷ is one ▷ is all powerful ▷ answers prayer ▷ is worthy of worship ▷ cannot be understood	There is more to life than physical attributes . Dreams can be important	It is right to ▷ stand up for what you believe	valuing: ▷ loyalty ▷ faithfulness ▷ courage ▷ service	Who is worthy of worship? How might God protect people today? What makes a good king or queen?	Everyone has the right ▷ to worship God in a particular way ▷ to their own holy ground which should be respected
DANIEL					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCE
praise honour worship angel loyalty	with those who: ▷ are chosen ▷ are challenged in difficult situations ▷ are threatened ▷ are trapped	What do I believe strongly? Where does my loyalty lie? When am I afraid?	of: ▷ being chosen ▷ being strong and resolute ▷ dreaming ▷ being brave in frightening situations ▷ seeing good overcome evil	fear anger grief relief joy	It is natural: ▷ to dream ▷ to be afraid

Resources:

Belshazzar's Feast Walton
 Conducted by Eugene Ormandy
 Philadelphia Orchestra
 CBS Classics 61264

Key Stage 2 : Year 4

Old Testament: Elijah,

1 Kings 16: 29-17: 7

The stories of Elijah and of his successor Elisha are told in the First and Second Books of Kings. These prophets' lives were closely linked with those of the royal kings who reigned over Israel during the 9th Century BC/BCE. Little is known from an historical perspective, but the narratives show what a profound effect the prophet had on the lives of ordinary people.

Elijah has a significant place in historical and contemporary Jewish practice. It is believed that one day he will return and at certain celebrations, a place is laid for him at every Jewish table.

Lesson 1

This is the story of a prophet who had a difficult message to tell.

Elijah was distraught by what he saw about him. No one cares about God any more, he thought. Ahab was the King of Israel at that time and he preferred to worship Baal, who was a god of fertility and he encouraged his people to do the same. He even built temples and statues where people came to pray. Elijah knew that this was wrong and he felt he had to do something about it. He decided that it was time to go and see King Ahab himself. He was confident that God would be with him.

Elijah had to walk all the way to the king's palace and finding him there he told him straight out that Baal was not a god; the only true God was the God of Israel, the One God whom he worshipped. As proof, he told Ahab that there would be no more rain until God decided to send rain. The king was so shocked that he didn't notice Elijah slip away. Ahab was furious at such impudence. He ordered that Elijah was to be found and killed.

God was looking after Elijah. He kept him safely hidden in a valley near the River Jordan. It was a miracle Elijah wasn't caught. A brook ran through the valley so he had plenty to drink. God also sent food to Elijah. As he was sitting by the brook he saw a flock of large birds, called ravens, heading towards him. With surprise he realised that each one was carrying a morsel of food in its beak; the food was dropped beside Elijah. Gratefully he ate all that was given to him. After that, every morning and every evening ravens flew into the valley carrying bread and meat in their beaks. That was another miracle.

However, the brook soon began to dry up. Elijah was hoping that his plan for Ahab had worked, but there was still no sign of rain. Will God help him now?

For discussion:

Why do you think it was difficult for Elijah to give his message to Ahab?

Why did he do it?

God provided for Elijah. Who provides for you?

Ahab was so angry at being criticised that he actually wanted to kill Elijah. How do you feel when you are criticised?

Lesson 2

God saw that Elijah could no longer stay in the valley. He would have to move on. God told Elijah to go to a village near the coast where he would find someone to look after him. On his journey he noticed how dry the land was and how all the crops had withered and died. At last, tired and hungry, he arrived at a small village. He saw a poor woman gathering sticks. Elijah asked her for water and some bread. She shook her head sadly.

“All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil. This is all we have left. Then we will starve.”

Elijah smiled at the woman. “I will gather some sticks for your fire and I will live in your house until God brings the rain and there will always be flour in your barrel and oil in your jar.”

When she returned to her house, the poor woman could hardly believe her eyes. There was flour in her barrel and oil in the jar. Elijah stayed at the woman’s house and there was always enough for them to eat, but still the rain did not come.

One day, the widow’s son became ill and died. The woman raged at Elijah, “What have I done to deserve this? Why have you done this? Has God sent you to punish me?” Elijah was puzzled. He knew that she was a good woman. He took the boy and laid him on the bed and knelt beside him.

“Lord, make this boy’s heart beat again.” The boy remained lifeless.

“Please, Lord give him back his life.” And when there was still no sign of life, Elijah tried again. Soon the boy’s eyes opened and once more began to breathe.

“Look, your son is alive,” Elijah cried.

The widow woman wept for joy. “Now I know that you are truly a man of God and the Lord speaks through you.”

For discussion:

How do you think that the widow would have felt when Elijah asked for food and water?

What do you think about what happened in the story?

What are the miracles in this part of the story?

What will happen next, do you think?

The widow was surprised by so much that happened. When have you been surprised?

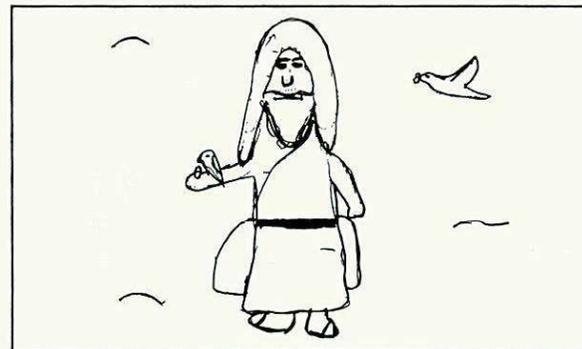
Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

ELIJAH

Number of lessons: 2

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>LISTEN TO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ part of <i>Elijah</i> by Mendelssohn <p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ pancakes to share	<p>ILLUSTRATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ part of the story	<p>READ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ the rest of the story of Elijah in I Kings 18 <p>FIND OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ about places where people suffer from famine today



Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	SYMBOLS	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	ENQUIRY	ECOLOGICAL RESPONSIBILITY
In the story, God: ▷ is not to be ignored ▷ comforts and strengthens ▷ is all powerful ▷ provides	There is more to life than can be explained	Food and water are symbols of God's power and goodness	are built on ▷ caring for each other ▷ sacrifice ▷ sharing one's resources	How might God communicate with people today? How is God's power expressed today?	Creation is: ▷ a mystery ▷ a source of nourishment for us
ELIJAH					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	EMOTIONS
prophet Israel miracle	with those who ▷ despair ▷ are hungry ▷ have faith ▷ do not have rain	Who provides for me? How do I feel when I am criticised? What surprises me?	of ▷ sharing ▷ faithfulness	I can feel: ▷ despair ▷ grief ▷ certainty I can ▷ care for others ▷ share my resources	despair hope joy

Resources:

Elijah Mendelssohn
New Philharmonia Chorus & Orchestra
EMI SAN 212-3-4
Stereo Library Services No 935/3

Key Stage 2 : Year 4

Old Testament: Psalms 100 and 57

The poetry of the Bible is expressed powerfully in the psalms. These offer opportunities to identify and explore the extremes of human emotion. Many of the psalms were written by David, the harp-playing shepherd boy who became King of Israel. Two of his psalms have been chosen to illustrate these emotional extremes. All the psalms, whether expressing despair or joy, are songs of praise.

Psalm 100 exhorts all the world to 'Sing to the Lord'; Psalm 57 is a prayer for help, written at a time when the king feels surrounded by violent enemies and calls out in his distress for protection. As he pours out his heart in prayer he experiences a change of mood, his fears are dispelled and he praises God with all his heart.

This encounter with the psalms gives pupils the assurance that it is acceptable to express one's emotions.

Lesson 1

- * *Have a tambourine and the text of Psalm 100. Explain that a psalm is a song of praise to God. Invite pupils to listen to the psalm being read and see how many important words they can remember.*

Read Psalm 100 first from a traditional version, eg: the Revised Standard Version then from a more accessible text such as The Good News Bible.

Draw out words and ideas to describe the feelings and attitudes of the psalmist.

Who is the psalm about?

What does the psalmist want to tell people about God?

The psalmist says 'God's love is eternal and his faithfulness lasts forever.' What do you think this means?

Whom can you trust and rely on?

Some people today like to play music and sing to praise God. Many instruments are used to accompany singing in worship. One group of Christians traditionally uses tambourines like this. Perhaps you can find out who they are.

Listen to the sound of the tambourine as it is shaken vigorously.

For discussion:

How do you feel when you hear the tambourine?

What other things make you feel excited, joyful or happy?

Whom do you tell when you feel happy?

What do other people say when you tell them?

For discussion:

How does David's mood change?

What do you think has happened to change his mood?

What makes your moods change?

How do you express how you feel?

Where do you turn in times of trouble?

Why do you think some people don't want others to know when they are upset?

Lesson 2

What was the mood of Psalm 100?

What other moods might the psalmist express?

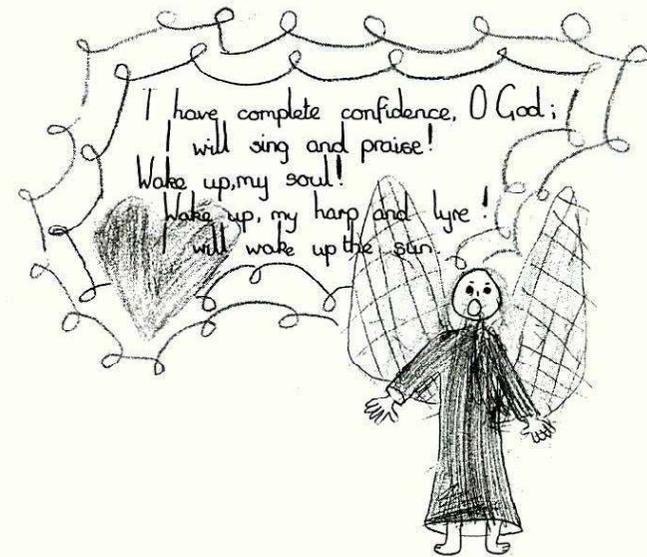
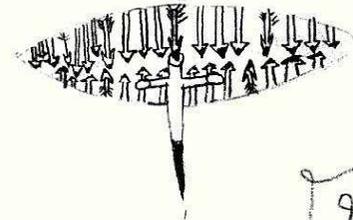
Here is another psalm.

- * *Read the first 6 verses of psalm 57 and talk about the moods expressed and the images used to describe them.*

This psalm was written by a king who ruled over the people of Israel. His name was David. You can read the story of David's life in the two Books of Samuel in the part of the Bible called the Old Testament. David was a shepherd boy who became a very famous leader of his people. He trusted God all his life and you can see from the psalms he wrote how important his faith was to him. David turned to God in times of trouble, but listen to the rest of the psalm and think how the mood changes.

- * *Read the psalm from Verse 6 to the end.*

I am surrounded by enemies
Who are like man-eating lions
Their teeth are like spears and arrows
Their tongues are like sharp swords



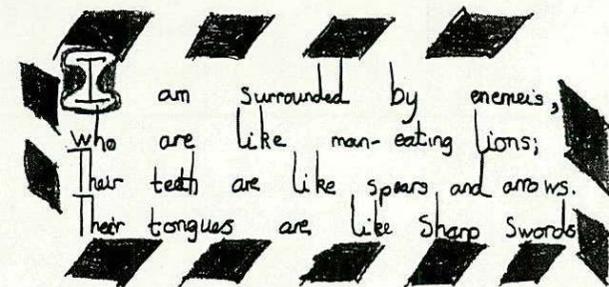
Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

PSALMS 100 AND 57

Number of lessons: 2

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a mobile ▷ a double sided paper head, one side showing joy, the other fear or sadness. <p>COLLECT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ words that express sadness or joy and write them on the face or add in a 'tail' hanging from the face like a kite tail. 	<p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ out Psalm 100 and decorate the words ▷ a phrase (in small groups) describing what makes you joyful ▷ about what makes you fearful 	<p>COMPOSE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ music for the phrases using a pentatonic scale. <p>RESEARCH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ and find out any other writing which expresses similar emotions.



Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts				Attitudes	
BELIEFS	IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	
The psalmist says God is: ▷ gracious ▷ faithful ▷ eternal	Religion: ▷ is expressed by David through his psalms ▷ gives hope ▷ goes on for ever	David saw his psalms as a way of communicating with God - a way to express his joy and fear.	valuing ▷ bad feelings ▷ opportunities to express emotions	How should we deal with violence? Is it ever right to be violent?	
PSALMS 100 & 57					
Skills				Exploration of Human Experience	
USE OF LANGUAGE	USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCES
eternal gracious faithful	Exploring: ▷ the psalm as a form of poetry	With those who ▷ are in despair ▷ are joyful	Who else writes of despair and joy? How do I express how I feel?	fear relief joy despair	It is natural to feel ▷ despair ▷ joy ▷ fear

Key Stage 2 : Year 4

The Wedding at Cana

John 2: 1-12

This is described as Jesus' first miracle and is recounted only in John's gospel. The gospel writer describes such miracles as 'signs' which are presented to illustrate the message of the gospel. In this story, the changing of the ordinary to the extraordinary is intended to illustrate the transformation that following Jesus is believed to bring to everyday life. Because it is not immediately linked to the relief of human suffering, it has been thought an insignificant miracle, but it must be remembered that in Jesus' time a wedding feast was an extremely important event. If anything went wrong, then it would be seen as a bad omen for the couple's marriage. A successful wedding feast was a sign that God would provide, that God was interested in the ordinary things of life and wanted people to enjoy themselves.

Lesson 1

Jesus and his mother were at a wedding with some friends in the town of Cana in Galilee. The party was in full swing. There was plenty to eat and the wine was being drunk freely. It was Mary, Jesus' mother, who noticed that the wine was running out. She knew what a terrible disgrace it would be for the host of the party and how it would upset the bride and groom.

Mary went straight to Jesus and told him, but Jesus said, "My time has not yet come."

But Mary trusted Jesus and told the servants to do the same.

"Do whatever Jesus tells you," she instructed them.

They were rather puzzled when Jesus asked them to pick up some stone water jars and to fill them to the brim with water. When they were full, Jesus asked one of the servants to take some to the man in charge of the feast. The servant was a little unsure, but decided to do as he was told. The man drank it with pleasure. It tasted so good. Delighted, he called the bridegroom over.

"Most people serve the best wine first and after they have had plenty to drink they bring out the ordinary stuff, but you have saved the best till last."

For discussion:

This may have been Jesus' first miracle. What do you think about what happened in the story?

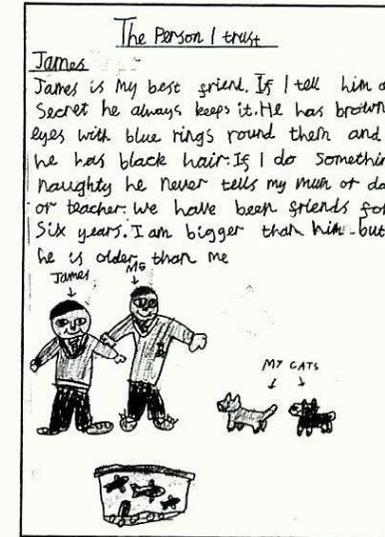
What do you think Jesus meant when he said his time had not yet come?

Why do you think he helped in the end?

Mary was sure Jesus would help. How does it feel to be so sure of someone?

Whom do you trust?

Why do you think Christians treasure this story?



Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

THE WEDDING AT CANA

Number of lessons: 1

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>DRAMATISE</p> <p>▷ the story</p>	<p>WRITE</p> <p>▷ about someone you trust and explain why you trust him or her</p>	<p>FIND OUT</p> <p>▷ about another miracle of Jesus</p>

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	SYMBOLS	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	ENQUIRY	SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
Christians believe Jesus: ▷ performed miracles ▷ helps them	There is mystery Some events cannot be explained	Actions can be symbolic	are built on ▷ trust ▷ certainty	How did Jesus do it? What happened to the water?	I can be ▷ trusted ▷ dependable
THE WEDDING AT CANA					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	
miracle trust	with those who ▷ are sure of someone they trust ▷ have no one to trust	Whom do I trust? What do I think about the story?	of ▷ certainty ▷ uncertainty	anxiety surprise delight	

The person I trust

I trust my friend

I trust my friend across the road because when I went on holiday he looked after my fish.



Key Stage 2 : Year 4

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10: 25-37

Jesus used this parable to answer a question intended to trick him, but he also wanted to shock his listeners. Jesus is attacking the belief that ritual purity should be paramount over the needs of the suffering person. It would not have surprised anyone that the first two travellers in the story would not stop to help. However, the identity of the good neighbour is a surprise. The Samaritans were hated with great bitterness by the Jews. The action of this foreigner pushes those who hear the story beyond the concept of helping each other. It confronts them with the challenge that they should help anyone, of any race and background, however difficult that may be. The message is relevant for every society today and for every individual, however young.

Lesson 1

When Jesus spoke in public many of his listeners were impressed by what he said and thought carefully about his words. But some people asked awkward questions, trying to catch Jesus out or find something he couldn't answer. That's what happened when a lawyer stood up and asked Jesus, "What shall I do to make sure that I have eternal life?"

Jesus looked at the lawyer and, knowing he was trying to trick him, replied with another question. "What does it say about this in our law?" The lawyer, being a well read and knowledgeable man, knew this and replied,

"It says that to ensure eternal life you must love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and you must love your neighbour as yourself."

"Correct," said Jesus, "Why should I say anything else? You have answered your own question."

The lawyer was annoyed at being put in his place so smartly. He was determined he would not give up. "Tell me then," he said to Jesus, "who is my neighbour?"

Jesus looked at him and decided to answer him by telling all his listeners a story.

"Once a man, a Jew like you and me, was journeying from Jerusalem to Jericho. As you know it is a dangerous route not only because of the narrow rocky paths, but because of the threat from robbers. Unfortunately, this man was attacked by robbers who beat him up roughly, taking everything he carried. They took his money, his possessions, his horse and, when seeing the good quality of the clothes he was wearing, took those as well. He was left with nothing and, because the robbers had been so brutal, he was left for dead by the side of the road, unable to move or reach help.

Although it was not a busy road, it happened that a priest was travelling along it. He saw the man lying there in a terrible state, covered in blood. He could already be dead, the priest thought to himself and if I touch him I shall not be able to go into the Temple until I am cleansed. So he looked away and went on his way to the Temple. Soon another man came along. He was a Levite, also someone who worked in the Temple and he thought the same as the priest. He couldn't risk touching the injured man, although he could see how badly he needed help. He went on his way to the Temple.

A little later a stranger came by. He was a man from Samaria. Even though he realised the injured man was a Jew, his enemy, he felt so sorry for him. He went over and lifted the wounded man up and gave him a drink. Then he bound up the wounds to stop the bleeding and as soon as the man felt ready, carefully lifted him onto the donkey. Very slowly the Samaritan walked alongside the donkey, taking care that the wounded man was not jarred by the bumps in the road. When they arrived at the nearest inn the Samaritan called the innkeeper and explained what had happened. He gave money to the innkeeper and said, "Take care of him. This should be enough but if not, make a note and I will repay you when I return."

When Jesus finished telling this story, he turned to the lawyer and said, "Which one of these three men was the best neighbour to the one who was robbed?"

The lawyer looked rather ashamed and said, "The man who showed mercy on him."

Jesus said, "Then you know who is your neighbour. Go and do as that man did."

For discussion:

Who is your neighbour?

How would you feel if you were the injured man?

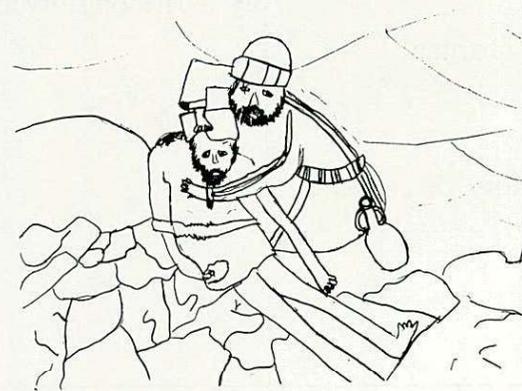
Which man would you have expected to help and why?

How have you helped someone in need?

Who has ever helped you when you were in need and how did they help?

How can you help someone in need?

Who is the modern day Samaritan?



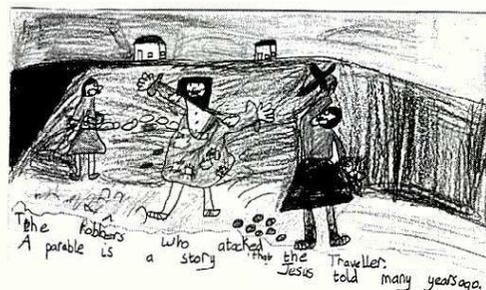
Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

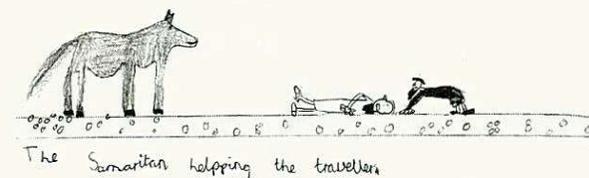
Number of lessons: 1

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>DRAMATISE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ the story <p>SING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ the song 'The Good Samaritan' <p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a class collage of the story 	<p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ and act out a modern day Good Samaritan story ▷ a cartoon storyboard of the story 	<p>READ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ another parable told by Jesus <p>FIND OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ from a map where this story takes place ▷ about the Jews' relationship with Samaritans



Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION	MORALITY	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
God: ▷ is universal	Religion: ▷ can separate people ▷ influences the way people behave	It is right to: ▷ be attentive to the needs of others ▷ be compassionate	valuing: ▷ everyone ▷ compassion ▷ the good Samaritan	Why do some people hurt others? Why do some people not seem to care?	I can ▷ take notice ▷ care about others ▷ be a good Samaritan
THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCE
eternal priest Temple	with those who: ▷ need help ▷ are afraid to give help ▷ do help	When did I need someone's help? How can I help someone? When do I want to walk by?	of: ▷ being listened to ▷ being rescued ▷ helping others	fear despair pride compassion love	It is natural to: ▷ be too busy sometimes ▷ encounter people who need help ▷ be afraid



Key Stage 2 : Year 5

Jacob

Genesis 25: 19-34, 27: 1-45, 28: 11-19, 32 and 33: 1-11

The story of Jacob is a significant link in the family saga on which the history of the people of Israel is founded. It was to Jacob's grandfather, Abraham, that God's promise of fulfilment through countless generations was made; it was tested and affirmed in Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son, Isaac, Jacob's father and then realised in Jacob himself, who was renamed Israel. The saga of Joseph, Jacob's favourite son, leads the Israelites ultimately into slavery in Egypt and up to the most significant event in their history, the Exodus from captivity, led by Moses.

The Jacob episode emphasises the importance of birth-right and blessing. The story raises issues of conflict in family relationships, of apparent injustice and tension between siblings and eventually gives an opportunity to explore reconciliation, with others and with oneself.

Lesson 1

Rebekah was married to Isaac and, although happy with him, she had almost given up hope of having a child. They had been together for 20 years and now were getting on in age. Isaac knew Rebekah was unhappy and in his concern prayed to God, asking that she should have a child. One day Rebekah came to Isaac very excited. "I'm going to have a baby," she said. "I'm so excited; it'll be wonderful!"

But things were not quite as planned, for Rebekah was very ill during her pregnancy. Every day she felt dreadful and she prayed to God, wondering why things should be so. God, however, answered Rebekah saying, "You are not having one baby, but two. They are twin boys. One will be stronger than the other but the elder boy will serve the younger." Rebekah didn't take much notice, thankful that she had an answer to her problems and happy to be having twins.

However, a strange thing happened when they were born. It was said that the second twin was born gripping the heel of the first. The first was only a minute older, but what a difference that minute was going to make! The boys from the start were very different. Esau, the elder twin, was red-headed. He was an active, outdoor kind of lad, muscular and fond of hunting. Jacob, the younger, was a quiet, thoughtful boy who stayed at home and, because of this, became very close to Rebekah. Esau, however, became Isaac's favourite; not that parents ought to have favourites, but that's what happened in this family.

Now in those days, being the eldest son was a great privilege. Traditionally when the father died all the property and money went to the eldest son. It was his by right of birth, so it was known as his birth-right. Of course, in this family Esau was the eldest so he held the birth-right. Jacob didn't like this one bit.

He was sure that he, being good at figures and at managing, would be more suited to inherit Isaac's business.

One day when Jacob was in the kitchen cooking a stew, Esau, who hadn't been home for days, lurched in very tired, dirty and starving.

"What's that marvellous smell?" he demanded. "I'm starving! Give me some quickly before I die on the spot!"

"You can have as much stew as you wish," Jacob said, "but only if you give me your birth-right."

Esau looked at him and at Rebekah who was watching silently and said, "If I don't eat soon, I'll die and the birth-right will be useless anyway."

"Promise me," said Jacob.

"Yes, I promise," said Esau. "Now hurry up and give me some stew." And so the deed was done; the birth-right was given away, but Isaac knew nothing of this.

For discussion:

Who is the stronger of the two brothers?

What do you think about Esau's quick response?

What do you think might happen when Isaac finds out?

What would you have done if you had been Esau?

What might make a parent favour one child more than the other?

When have you been cheated out of something that was really yours?

Lesson 2

So here was Jacob with the birth-right promised to him but knowing his father, Isaac, would never agree with the situation. In all families a blessing had to be given by the father to the eldest son to ensure the birth-right. How was Jacob going to solve this problem to get what he wanted?

The years went by and Isaac and the boys grew older. In fact, Isaac became frail and blind and, knowing the time had come, called Esau to him. "Go and kill some wild goats for me so that I may eat and give you my blessing before I die," he said.

Esau went out, happy to please his father, but Rebekah was listening. She told Jacob what she'd heard. "What can I do?" said Jacob. "There is nothing I can do."

But Rebekah had it worked out. "Go out quickly," she said "and kill two of our goats and then you can give Isaac the meal. He is blind so he won't know it is you he is blessing instead of Esau."

But Jacob argued, "Esau is a hairy man and I am smooth armed. If my father touches me he will know I am not Esau and he will curse me instead of blessing me."

But Rebekah had also thought of this and when Jacob brought the two freshly killed goats she wrapped the skins of the kids over the arms and over the smooth part of Jacob's neck. She then dressed Jacob in Esau's clothes and Jacob was sent to his father to receive the blessing.

Isaac welcomed Jacob happily, smelling the clothes of his eldest son and feeling his rough arms and hands. He ate and when he had finished Jacob said to him, disguising his voice as well as he could, "Put your hand on my head, father and bless me." And Isaac did.

Jacob held his breath. His father had blessed him; the birthright was his. Although his heart was thumping, he crept quietly away.

Isaac felt very sleepy, having eaten well and being very content. He was awoken by Esau returning from the hunt. Isaac became very confused, not knowing what could have gone wrong, but Esau quickly realised what had happened and hated Jacob for hurting their beloved father.

Isaac would have given anything to take back his actions, but both he and Esau knew it was impossible. "From now on," Isaac said, "you must serve Jacob. But one day, I promise you... one day, you shall be free from this burden."

For discussion:

What is Esau's burden?

How do you think he will be freed from it as his father promised?

What do you think about what Jacob did?

Why do you think Isaac's blessing was so important?

What does this story teach us about the importance of everything we say?

What have you had handed down to you that is important to you?

Lesson 3

Isaac was right. One day Esau was to be free of his burden of resentment and unhappiness but it was a long time in coming.

After what had happened Esau threatened to kill his brother so Jacob, suddenly afraid, ran away. He had to get as far away as possible as quickly as he could. He was heading for his uncle's

place in Syria, a long way away. At first he did run, fearful that Esau would follow. When he finally stopped for the night he was exhausted. While he slept he had a most extraordinary dream in which he saw angels on a huge stairway to heaven and God spoke to him about the future, making promises about his children and his children's children. Jacob made a promise too and dedicated the place to God.

Jacob finally reached his destination where he settled down with his Uncle Laban. Jacob married, raised a family and became very rich. But he could not stop thinking about his brother, so eventually, after more than twenty years, he decided to go home.

Now Jacob was frightened again, afraid of what Esau would do. He was ashamed of the way he had wronged his brother so long ago. He asked for God's help and two things happened. First of all Jacob had an idea. The word had come to him that Esau, hearing that his brother was returning, had set off to meet him with four hundred men. Jacob was afraid this meant a fight so he decided to send all his animals off in herds as gifts to Esau. Each herdsman was instructed to say the animals in his herd were a present from Jacob to his master Esau.

Jacob waited anxiously, wondering what would happen. What **did** happen during that night was a mystery to Jacob but it was something he never forgot. He had spent most of the night alone, away from his family, thinking and praying. When he got up to cross the stream and return to his camp, he found something barring his way. In the darkness, he couldn't see what it was but it

felt like a wrestling match with another man. Jacob had heard no one approach him. Who could this be?

“Jacob,” it said, “you have battled with God and with yourself and you have done well. You shall have a new name. From now on, you will be called Israel and your descendants will be the Israelites.”

When Jacob awoke in the morning his leg was very painful so he couldn't have imagined it all. He was still anxious about Esau, but he needn't have worried. When his brother arrived it was with his arms out-stretched to embrace Jacob who had been lost for so long. At last they were reconciled.

Activity Suggestions:

For discussion:

How had Jacob's attitude to his brother changed?

In what ways did Jacob have to battle with himself throughout his life?

What do you think it means to battle with yourself?

When have you had to battle with yourself?

How does it feel when you are reconciled with someone after a conflict?

Teaching About:

JACOB

Number of lessons: 3

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>DRAW</p> <p>▷ a picture to illustrate one moment of Jacob's story</p>	<p>WRITE</p> <p>▷ about when you have been really jealous of someone else</p> <p>▷ about how you feel about Jacob</p>	<p>WRITE</p> <p>▷ about the ways in which you have to wrestle with yourself</p> <p>▷ an acrostic based on the word 'RECONCILIATION'</p>

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE							
Concepts				Attitudes			
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	MORALITY	FORGIVENESS	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	FORGIVENESS
In the story, God: ▷ answers prayer ▷ changes people ▷ is a mystery	Money and status do not give fulfilment to life	It is wrong to: ▷ cheat - guilt brings pain It is right to ▷ forgive	Esau forgave his brother	are built on: ▷ trust ▷ forgiveness ▷ honesty	valuing: ▷ suffering ▷ repentance ▷ reconciliation	How do people change? Why do some people cheat?	I can: ▷ forgive even in the most difficult situations ▷ be honest
JACOB							
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience				
USE OF LANGUAGE	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCE	
blessing dedicated	with those who: ▷ feel jealous ▷ are afraid ▷ have to wrestle with themselves	When am I jealous of someone? When do I have to battle with myself? What has been handed down to me?	of: ▷ struggling with oneself ▷ self-realisation ▷ reconciliation	I can ▷ be jealous ▷ be changed ▷ be reconciled	jealousy fear despair amazement relief joy	It is natural to: ▷ be jealous sometimes ▷ be changed	

Key Stage 2 : Year 5

The Apocrypha: Tobias

The story of Tobias is to be found in a collection of books commonly called the Apocrypha. The word Apocrypha means 'hidden' and may have been used in early times to refer to manuscripts that were so precious they had to be hidden from the general public. Later it was applied to writings which were hidden because they were not good enough, their content being regarded as questionable or heretical. St Jerome, in the fourth century, used the word in a third way, to mean those books which were outside the Hebrew Scriptures but included in the Greek version of the Old Testament.

In Greek manuscripts these books are dispersed throughout the Old Testament, found generally in accord with their contents. The practice of collecting them into a separate unit only dates back to 1520 and today many Bibles are printed without their inclusion.

The Apocrypha today consists of 15 books; all are anonymous and nothing precise has been determined about their author or date. Some suppose they were written in the time between the Old and New Testaments. If true, it means the Apocrypha is important for understanding the development of religious ideas in these times. The concepts of angels and demons become explicit, as in this story of Tobit and Tobias and have inspired many works of art. Throughout the Apocrypha God's concern for all human kind is apparent and is a strong element in these stories.

Lesson 1

A long time ago, in a well-off part of the city of Nineveh lived an old couple, with their son, Tobias and their pet dog. The father's name was Tobit and his wife was called Anna. They were very happy together and they always tried to follow the commands of God despite often being unpopular with their neighbours. Their door was always open to any stranger who passed and many times Anna found himself cooking not only for the family but for two or three guests as well.

One dreadful day, Tobit went blind. It was a terrible shock, but he took it well, believing it was God's will. From then on, things went from bad to worse. They lost everything; the house,

the business, the savings. It all went as Tobit was unable to work. Soon they were even left with nothing to eat.

Tobit was deeply depressed and he prayed in desperation to God.

“Dear Lord,” he groaned, “I know you are always just and that you are merciful and true, but remember me now, Lord and help me. If it is your will, let me die, for it is better that I am dead and released from my misery. Answer me Lord, please.”

On that very same day it happened that a girl called Sarah, the daughter of Raguel, living in Ecbatana in Media, was also pleading and praying to God in great distress. She had been married seven times but all her husbands had been killed on her wedding night by a wicked demon called Asmodaeus. Many thought she was killing the bridegrooms herself and turned their backs on her. She was at her wits’ end, not knowing what to do. So she went up to her attic and prayed to God. “Dear God, please help me. Let me die so that people will no longer think ill of me. You know, Lord, that I am innocent, but if it is your will, let me die for what have I to live for any longer? Please God, listen to me now.”

Now the prayers of both were heard by God who watched as Tobit went back from the courtyard into his house and Sarah came down from the attic. God decided to help them both.

For discussion:

What do you think God will do to help Tobit and Sarah?

Why do you think Tobit and Sarah turned to God in their distress?

Where do you turn when you are in despair about something? Why?

Lesson 2

As Tobit returned to the house a thought suddenly occurred to him.

“I’m sure some time ago I lent Raguel in Media ten talents of silver and I never received them back,” he remembered. “I haven’t thought of him in years, I’m sure he wouldn’t mind if I asked for him to return the loan. How strange that I should remember him now.” And he went off to tell Anna. Anna was delighted, “God knows we need that money,” she said, “but how can we collect it? We are too old for travelling.”

“We can send Tobias,” replied Tobit.

“But he is too young,” protested Anna, whose thoughts were for the safety of her only son, “and he doesn’t know the way to Media.”

But Tobit refused to listen to his wife and called his son, who came running.

“Tobias,” said Tobit, “go out and find a friend to accompany you to Media, someone who knows the way, for if you collect this money, great wealth will be yours as long as you follow the ways of God.”

Tobias was excited and went out to find himself a companion. He had just stepped outside the house when he met a stranger enquiring for his father.

“Is this the house of Tobit and Anna?” he asked.

“Yes,” said Tobias. “Come in.” As they walked into the house he asked, “Where do you come from?”

"I am an Israelite, like you," the man replied, "and I have come to find work."

"Do you know the way to Media?" said Tobias.

"Oh yes," he said, "I know the route well, for I have travelled the road often and have many times stayed with Raguel in Ecbatana."

"What a coincidence!" exclaimed Tobias, "I'm about to travel there and I'm looking for someone to show me the way."

Tobit looked up as they entered the room.

"Father," Tobias exclaimed, "you'll never guess what? There's a man here who's asking to see you and he knows Raguel well and he knows the way to Ecbatana!"

"What is your name?" Tobit asked.

"I am Azarias," he replied, "son of Ananias."

"Ananias!" exclaimed Tobit, "I know him well! How marvellous that Tobias should meet you. I would be grateful if you could accompany my son to Ecbatana and keep him safe on the journey."

"Yes," replied Azarias, "How fortunate that I should be coming to your house at this time."

"Have a safe journey," said Tobit, "God bless you both, thank you, my friend."

Tobit called Tobias to his side and said goodbye to him. "Get what you need," he said, "and set off. May God keep you both safe; may his angel safely escort you."

And the two men set off. Anna, watching, felt a little apprehensive as she saw her only son disappear, but she was strangely comforted because Azarias was with Tobias.

For discussion:

What do you think about the timing of Azarias' visit to Tobit's home?

Who do you think Azarias is?

If you were going on a long journey whom would you choose to protect you and why?

How do you know when you can trust someone?

Lesson 3

Tobias and Azarias left the house together and the dog went with them. They travelled until night almost overtook them and then they camped by the river Tigris. Tobias was hot and tired and so he went eagerly to sit by the river. He dangled his feet in the cool water.

Suddenly he shrieked. "Ouch! something's got my foot. Help me Azarias! It's a huge fish. Get it off me!"

But Azarias stayed calm. "Seize the fish by the gills," he said. "Trust me and hold its head out of the water. We'll have it for supper."

There was a great splashing and then Tobias appeared, dragging the huge fish behind him. Soon they were enjoying a superb fish supper. Tobias thought it very strange, however, when Azarias made him save the heart, liver and gall of the fish and put them in his bag, but he did as he was instructed.

"You will find these useful one day," Azarias explained.

The next day they arrived in Ecbatana and found Raguel's house easily. Raguel welcomed them and when he heard why they had come he handed over the money immediately. "I'm just so sorry it's taken so long," he said. "I'll even add on the interest. But eat now and soon you can meet Sarah, my daughter."

After they had eaten and rested Azarias found Tobias in his room.

"Tobias," he said, "you will soon meet Sarah. She is very beautiful and I think you will marry her."

"You're crazy," said Tobias, "First you make me keep the heart, liver and gall of a fish, now you say I'm going to marry a girl I've never met! Anyhow, I hear that this girl has already had seven husbands and they have died the very night of the wedding. I am my father's only child and I certainly don't want to die marrying a girl I have as yet never met!"

However, just then he looked down into the garden. "Oh Azarias, look at that girl. She's beautiful. Who is she?"

"That, Tobias," said Azarias softly, "is Sarah!"

Tobias spent the next day talking to Sarah and soon it was obvious they had fallen in love. They both knew they wanted to get married. Tobias refused to be put off by Raguel's pleadings and forebodings and so the eighth wedding feast was prepared.

On the day of the wedding Azarias took Tobias to one side. "Listen and do as I say," he said. "Tonight when you and Sarah go to your room light a small fire in the grate outside your door and put on it the fish heart and liver I told you to keep. It will make a bad smell, but ignore that. Trust me. All will be well."

That night when a demon arrived at the door to kill Sarah's eighth husband, the smell of the burning fish's guts stopped him in his tracks. He was furious and fled from the land. But Azarias, who had been watching from the shadows was, after him in a flash. The fight began.

For discussion:

Who do you think will win? Why?

What do you think of Azarias now?

What words would you use to describe the smell of the fish's guts burning?

What do you think demons are?

Lesson 4

The battle raged on. At first they seemed evenly matched, but Azarias eventually overcame his opponent. He bound the demon's hand and foot so that he could no longer move.

Meanwhile, Raguel was up early digging a grave for the eighth husband. He was surprised and delighted to find that it wasn't needed. The wedding party went on for weeks. A wonderful time was had by all. But one day Tobias thought it was time to return to Anna and Tobit.

"They must be very worried," he said. "I only came to collect money. They must wonder where I am."

Tobias was right. Back in Nineveh, Anna was worried sick. "I shouldn't have let him go," she said, "I knew he wasn't strong enough to cope. And to let him go with Azarias! I shouldn't have trusted him."

“Don’t worry,” Tobit said. “Tobias is safe with Azarias; I felt he was such a good man.”

As they approached the house, Azarias said, “Tobias, let us hurry ahead of Sarah and see that the house is ready before she arrives. Also remember to take the fish gall in your hand and when you see your father spread it on his eyes.” So they quickened their pace, with the dog following at their heels.

Anna spotted them as they came into view and excitedly called Tobit. Then she joyfully ran to meet them and hugged Tobias delighted to see him. Tobit rose to his feet and came stumbling out through the courtyard door. Tobias went up to him and, taking him by the arm, spread the fish gall on his eyes.

“How good it is to see you, Tobias,” exclaimed Tobit. “Tobias! I can see, I can really see you! Praise be to God! I can see my son Tobias!”

They went indoors, thanking God and Tobias told his father of the success of his journey. Then, as Sarah arrived, they all went to welcome her to her new home. What a joyful day! Everyone came to see Tobias and his new wife and to bring gifts.

When the first excitement was over, Tobit remembered Azarias. “Where is the man who accompanied you?” he asked, “I must thank him and pay him for his time and trouble.”

But as they looked they saw Azarias standing a way off. A sort of glow came from him and somehow he seemed bigger than before.

“Tobit,” said Azarias, “do not thank me, but praise God and thank him for the good he has done you. When you and Sarah prayed it was I who brought your prayers before God. Then it was me whom God sent to help both of you, to cure you and rid Sarah of the demon. My real name is Raphael and I am one of the

seven angels who stand beside God himself. Do not be afraid now, for all is well. Praise God forever. It is no thanks to me that I have been with you; it was the will of God. Be happy, sing the praises of God and write down all that has happened to you.”

As they rose to their feet they realised the angel had disappeared.

Tobit raised his voice in thanksgiving:

“Praise to the everlasting God and his kingdom!

He punishes and he shows mercy;

Nothing can escape his power.

Exalt him in the sight of every living creature,

For he is our Lord and God.

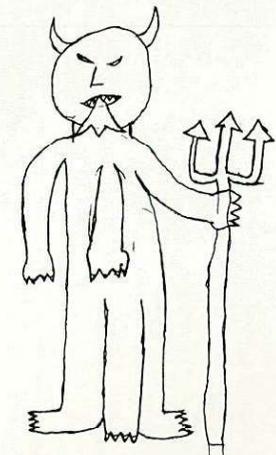
He is our Father and our God forever.”

For discussion:

What do you think about what happened to Tobit and Sarah in the story?

What do you think of Azarias now?

I wonder what angels are?



Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

TOBIAS

Number of lessons: 4

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>LOOK AT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ a painting of 'Tobias and the Angel'	<p>WRITE OR DRAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ what you think angels and demons might be like <p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ a song or poem of thanksgiving	<p>FIND OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▷ where else angels appear in the Old and New Testaments▷ about another story in the Apocrypha

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	SYMBOLS	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	SOCIAL AWARENESS
In the story, God: ▷ listens ▷ acts ▷ helps people ▷ sends angels	There is more to life than can be understood	Stories can be symbols	valuing: ▷ trust ▷ honesty ▷ companionship ▷ surprises	What are demons? What are angels? Is the story true?	People do make sacrifices for those they love Families are bound together
TOBIAS					
Skills				Exploration of Human Experience	
USE OF LANGUAGE	REASONED ARGUMENT	EMPATHY	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS
angel demons	Who is trustworthy? How do I know? What makes coincidences happen?	with those who ▷ are in distress ▷ are reunited ▷ are surprised	Whom do I turn to when I am upset? What surprises me? Whom do I trust?	of ▷ mystery ▷ pattern ▷ providence	despair trust hope certainty

Resources:

Tobias & the Angel

School of Andrea Del Verrocchis, The National Gallery

Tobias & the Angel

Turner, The Tate Gallery.

Key Stage 2 : Year 5

Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs is a collection of short, frequently unconnected, moral sayings, many of them written in metaphorical language. They present a code of behaviour based on personal qualities of integrity, honesty, humility, loyalty and patience. Advice is offered on family relationships, business activities and social interaction, all of which is underpinned by faith in God.

Much is written about wisdom which, it is said, comes from God and is the voice of God in the world. The proverbs in chapters 10-22 are attributed to Solomon, the king who was famous in the Jewish world for his exceptional wisdom. The acquisition of wisdom, according to the Book of Proverbs, is the most important achievement anyone can make.

Pupils will find that many of these ancient, pithy sayings reflect their own experience of the world and of other people. An opportunity to reflect on the meaning of some of the proverbs and to confront their timeless relevance in a secular world will promote moral and spiritual development and help pupils to grow in sensitivity and understanding.

Lesson 1

* *Invite pupils, in pairs or small groups, to choose one proverb from a selection presented to them on individual cards and to discuss their interpretations of it. Their task is then to find non-verbal ways of presenting their proverb to the class. Identify individual proverbs and record them where they can be seen by everyone. When the list is complete, invite everyone to look at it.*

What sort of ideas are expressed in these sayings?
In what ways do these sayings attract attention?
Why do you think they were written down originally?

Where do you think they can be found?
What relevance do they have today?

These sayings are all in the Bible, in the Book of Proverbs. They are in the Old Testament so they were written originally thousands of years ago for the Hebrew people, now called the Jews. They were written to tell them how to behave. They were written in short, catchy phrases so that they would be remembered and some of them are even presented as riddles. They are observations about people, about what they think and say and do. They offer warnings about the consequences of doing or saying, or even thinking, bad things.

For discussion:

What words or phrases do you know off by heart?

What do they mean to you?

In what ways do they give you guidance?

Lesson 2

- * *Begin by sharing pupils' own proverbs and talk about them. Give groups of pupils either a number of references to the wisdom proverbs (and proverbs about fools) and invite them to find them in the text and to record them, or use photocopies of the sheets of proverbs which can be cut up and sorted into categories.*

What is the common theme in your collection(s) of proverbs?

What do your proverbs say about wisdom? (..about foolishness?)

What do you think wisdom is?

What is a fool?

The first chapters of the Book of Proverbs are written in the form of advice, especially to the young. The reader is addressed as 'my son' so the advice could be coming from a parent or even a teacher. The writer passes on to the reader what was said to him or her as a child in similar circumstances.

'Love wisdom and she will keep you safe. Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do' (4: 3-9).

Wisdom is presented as a person, a companion who comes from God and is the source of happiness and fulfilment in life. Throughout the whole book, wisdom is contrasted with folly, an old word for something that is foolish or stupid. Folly makes people unhappy.

For discussion:

*"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do."
What is the most important thing for you to do in your life?*

Why do some people behave foolishly?

What do you consider to be a foolish thing to do?

Lesson 3

- * *Share children's work on wisdom and talk about what makes someone appear wise.*

Why do you think these sayings are called the Proverbs of Solomon?

In the Old Testament there is a story about a king who was famous for his wisdom. The story can be found in the first Book of Kings, chapter 3 verses 16-28.

- * *Either invite pupils to find it and read the story for themselves or tell the story (see The Handbook for Religious Education in Key Stage one p41).*

Solomon prayed for the wisdom to rule justly and well. God promised Solomon that he would have wisdom and understanding greater than anyone who had ever lived or who would live after him.

Solomon's wisdom gave him deep insight into difficult situations. He understood how people thought and reacted to one another and his judgement was always good and fair. The proverbs in chapters 10-22 are called The Proverbs of Solomon. You can see from reading some of them what qualities Solomon considers a person must have to be wise.

For discussion:
Who is the wisest person you know?
What is it that makes a person wise?
What would you want to pass on to your children?

IF YOU STEAL YOU WILL BE TOSSING AND TURNING IN BED LIKE A ROUGH SEA
 KILLING IS LIKE DARKNESS INSIDE OF YOU.
 BAD WORDS ARE LIKE POISON AND GOOD WORDS ARE LIKE MILK.
 BAD WORDS CAN BLISTER YOUR SOUL
 GOOD WORDS CAN COMFORT YOUR HEART

Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

PROVERBS

Number of lessons: 3

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>ACT OUT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a play that demonstrates the truth of one proverb <p>MAKE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ a display which shows what WISDOM is... FOOLISHNESS is... 	<p>WRITE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ and decorate your own proverb 	<p>RESEARCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ more proverbs of Solomon from the Bible and present your favourite to the class ▷ modern day proverbs

Proverbs

<p><i>Sensible people accept good advice. People who talk foolishly will come to ruin.</i></p>	<p><i>Someone who holds back the truth causes trouble, but one who openly criticises works for peace.</i></p>	<p><i>Never get a lazy man to do something for you; he will be as irritating as vinegar on your teeth or smoke in your eyes.</i></p>	<p><i>You do yourself a favour if you are kind; if you are cruel you only hurt yourself.</i></p>
<p><i>Sensible people keep quiet about what they know, but stupid people advertise their ignorance.</i></p>	<p><i>Unused fields could yield plenty of food for the poor but unjust men keep them from being farmed.</i></p>	<p><i>Beauty in a woman without good judgement is like a gold ring in a pig's snout.</i></p>	<p><i>Thoughtless words can wound as deeply as any sword, but wisely spoken words can heal.</i></p>

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITINGS: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION	MORALITY	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY
God is: ▷ the source of all wisdom	Simple words can convey profound truth	It is right to: ▷ be wise ▷ respect others ▷ be thoughtful ▷ be honest ▷ be humble	are built on: ▷ respect ▷ humility ▷ honesty ▷ wisdom ▷ generosity ▷ cheerfulness ▷ thoughtfulness	valuing: ▷ wisdom ▷ words	What can words do? What is wisdom?
PROVERBS					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	USE OF LANGUAGE	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIPS	DAILY EXPERIENCE
Proverbs wisdom	Exploring: ▷ proverbs as expressions of wisdom	What guides me? What is the most important thing for me to do in my life? Who is the wisest person I know?	of: ▷ appreciating words ▷ using words ▷ finding wisdom	I can be ▷ generous ▷ cheerful ▷ thoughtful ▷ truthful ▷ wise	It is natural ▷ to be thoughtless sometimes ▷ to use words all the time

Key Stage 2 : Year 5

New Testament: Challenging the Pharisees

Matthew 23: 1-36, Mark 12: 38-39, Luke 11: 43-46, 20: 45-46

The account of Jesus' challenge to the teachers of the Law, the elders of the religious establishment, appears in all three of the synoptic Gospels although Matthew gives the episode more importance than the others. This is a significant moment, however, because in this encounter, Jesus is challenging not only the hypocritical behaviour of the people themselves, but is also issuing a direct challenge to the Law itself. It is inconceivable to the Jews that anyone could make the sort of claims that Jesus makes and this exchange alienates him decisively from the establishment.

This story offers an opportunity to discuss hypocritical attitudes encountered by pupils in their own lives and in world affairs.

Lesson 1

Jesus often spoke to great crowds and many gathered as he was speaking. It must have been interesting to listen, especially on this day, for Jesus was angry! He was angry, not with the ordinary people, but with the scribes and Pharisees. They were two respected and revered groups of people. The Pharisees devoted themselves wholeheartedly to studying the Law in the Torah and delighted in telling people what they must and must not do. The scribes copied out and interpreted the sacred writings which meant they had a lot of power when it came to discussing God.

Yet here, today, Jesus was furious at the scribes and Pharisees. He was attacking the very people who were supposed to be the leaders of the Jews and the most religious of all. This is what he said:

“Look at the Pharisees and scribes. Do what they say, but don't follow what they do. Watch them; they preach but do not practise what they say themselves! They love being given the best seats at feasts and in the synagogue and they love being called Teacher or Rabbi by you, the people, but what they don't realise is that we are all equal, we are all brothers and sisters. Those who set themselves up to be more important will be humbled and whoever serves will be made greater.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you are all hypocrites! You set yourselves up as leaders, but you shut the door of the Kingdom of Heaven in people's faces. You do not enter yourselves, but, worse than that, when others are entering and pleasing God, you stop them!

Woe to you scribes and Pharisees! You are hypocrites! You are content to clean the outside of the cup and the plate leaving the inside dirty, filled with robbery and selfishness. You fools! You know you must first clean the inside of the cup and plate and the outside will naturally be clean.

Alas for you, scribes and Pharisees. You are like tombs covered with whitewash. They look well from the outside, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all kinds of filth. You are just like that; from the outside you look like honest men but inside you are brim-full with hypocrisy and crime! You snakes, you vipers' brood. You are guilty of all this and you will bear the punishment for these crimes."

The scribes and the Pharisees were also very angry at what Jesus was saying to them and they plotted a way to trap him in order to get rid of him.

Activity Suggestions:

Teaching About:

CHALLENGING THE PHARISEES

Number of lessons: 1

For discussion:

What do you think of what Jesus was saying about these important religious people?

What sort of people were the scribes and Pharisees?

Who are the people today who sometimes behave like the scribes and Pharisees?

What is a hypocrite?

What is Jesus suggesting would be a better way to behave?

Where in your life or in the world do you encounter hypocritical attitudes?

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES	RECORDING ACTIVITIES	EXTENSION ACTIVITIES
<p>ROLE PLAY</p> <p>▷ a situation involving someone who is hypocritical</p>	<p>WRITE</p> <p>▷ about what makes you feel really angry</p> <p>▷ a calligram on the word ANGER or ANGRY</p>	<p>FIND AND READ</p> <p>▷ a story which tells of another time when Jesus was angry, eg Cleansing of the Temple</p>

Potential C.A.S.E. Developments

Knowledge: SACRED WRITING: THE BIBLE					
Concepts			Attitudes		
BELIEFS	IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION	MORALITY	INTEGRITY	ENQUIRY	
God ▷ looks inside the person ▷ is more important than religion	Religion: ▷ gives meaning to some people's lives ▷ can make some people feel superior	It is right to ▷ express anger when it is justified It is wrong to ▷ be hypocritical	valuing: ▷ integrity ▷ honesty ▷ openness ▷ righteous ▷ anger	What was Jesus really like? What is the best way to deal with anger? Where does anger come from?	
CHALLENGING THE PHARISEES					
Skills			Exploration of Human Experience		
USE OF LANGUAGE	REASONED ARGUMENT	REFLECTION	SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES	EMOTIONS	DAILY EXPERIENCE
Pharisees hypocrite Kingdom of Heaven	When is anger justified? How should hypocritical behaviour be exposed?	When am I a hypocrite? How do I behave when I'm angry?	of: ▷ justice ▷ leadership and courage ▷ principle	fury certainty	It is natural to: ▷ be angry sometimes ▷ encounter people who are hypocritical