

Gifts of The Spirit

Missionary Discipleship Resource

Missionary Discipleship

When Bishop Patrick first shared his Diocesan priorities with the Nottingham Diocese in his Pastoral Letter, (31st Sunday of Ordinary Time 2018) he described Missionary Discipleship in the following way:



...with a greater recognition of, and openness to, the help, guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we can all become **Missionary Disciples**; faith-filled, **joyful and outward-looking Christians** who are growing in confidence to speak humbly of the difference that knowing Christ makes to our lives, and who **bear witness to His love** in our service of our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need. The service to which Christ calls us is always the action of the Holy Spirit working in us.

...These themes remind us of what Jesus asks of his disciples, **“Go, make disciples of all nations”**; they remind us that the Church is called to be missionary.

A GUIDE TO THE 'GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT' RESOURCE



Welcome to Gifts of the Spirit, your resource to explore the theme of Missionary Discipleship during the Pentecost term. This resource has been designed to help you to explore the themes of Easter and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit with your children and young people, whilst encouraging them to become Missionary Disciples.

We were aware, when designing this resource, that the world at the moment is an unpredictable place. As such, we have designed these resources to be used either **in school, at home, or a combination of both**. The instructions have been kept simple to follow, with reflections and input to inspire heartfelt thought and prayer, in addition to simple and engaging actions and missions for all students to engage in. These missions are provided **in written and video format**, to enable effective sharing across all venues.



The first section of this resource focuses on some of the themes from Bishop Patrick's Pastoral letter on Missionary Discipleship; joy, service, and 'going out', whilst rooting them in the season of Easter. Please feel free to use as many of these sessions as you find helpful, and use them as a basis to plan your own activities, reflections and liturgies with students if you would prefer.



The second section of the resource focuses on another of the themes of Bishop Patrick's letter, The Holy Spirit, and as such it is meant to be used in the weeks following Pentecost, although you can use them at any time. The NDCYS 'Extra-ordo-nary' calendar has assigned one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to each of the weeks after the Solemnity of Pentecost. In this resource, you will find some 'See, Hear, Think, Do' input for each of the Gifts, which you can use in each of the assigned weeks. You could use the content for each Gift in a number of ways: to create a liturgy with your students based on the theme of the week, to put together a reflection or discussion session, or to simply set a mission or challenge based on the theme.



As always, please use this resource in whatever way is most useful. Hopefully it will be helpful to you and your students as we journey through the Pentecost term together and work towards growing as Missionary Disciples.



Missionary Discipleship during Eastertide

In this section you will find some content based around Easter and other activities and celebrations taking place during this time. It will provide you with suggested input to discuss with your students (or suggested discussion points), and an activity aimed at helping them to become Missionary Disciples.

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Joy

Fr Lim talks to us about the joy of Easter and sets us a challenge!

Page 5

New life and caring for our environment

In the week of 'Earth Day', let's heed the message of Pope Francis in Laudato Si' and start to care for our common home.

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Good Shepherd Sunday

Think about the message of Good Shepherd Sunday and how we can follow Jesus' example in our own lives.

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Missionary Discipleship & Emmaus Activity

Follow in the footsteps of the disciples and complete an Emmaus activity in an effort to get to know your classmates even better on your journey towards Missionary Discipleship.

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Pentecost Resources

These resources allow you to focus on one gift each week with your students, following the timeline set out by the 'Extra-ordo-nary' calendar from NDCYS. Each gift has suggested input and a mission to enable students to live out the calling to Missionary Discipleship.

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Easter is a time where we think about new life; the new life in heaven which Jesus makes possible through His sacrifice on the Cross, and the new life we see around us in nature during the season of spring. This is a good time for us to think about our relationship with our world and how we are treating it.

New Life and Caring For Our Environment

2

Our newest priest in the Nottingham Diocese - Fr Lim - shares the Easter story that brings us so much joy and sets us a challenge to share that joy amongst the people that we know!

Primary Schools: youtu.be/4AKMgLai5IE

Secondary Schools: youtu.be/iDUT6TnF7sI

Joy

1

22nd April is 'World Earth Day', a day for us to focus on our world and how we are treating it - perhaps in this week we could have a particular focus in school on how we can make a positive impact on our environment and what we can actively do, as disciples of Christ, to be good stewards of the earth?

Genesis 1: 26-30 and Genesis 2:15

What do you think these passages tell us about the responsibility God has given us in looking after the world? Do you think these passages show us that we can do whatever we want with the world and its resources, or something else?

What does the word 'steward' mean to you?

How does being a 'good steward' help us to be a good Missionary Disciple?

...

Pope Francis, General Audience, 21st May 2014 (2)

'The gift of knowledge sets us in profound harmony with the Creator and allows us to participate in the clarity of his vision and his judgement. And it is in this perspective that we manage to accept man and woman as the summit of creation, as the fulfillment of a plan of love that is impressed in each one of us and that allows us to recognise one another as brothers and sisters.'

What do you think God's plan of love is for the world? How can you be a part of that?

If man and woman are the 'summit of creation' what does that mean for us as Missionary Disciples?

...

Pope Francis, Laudato Si (33)

'It is not enough, however, to think of different species merely as potential "resources" to be exploited, while overlooking the fact that they have value in themselves. Each year sees the disappearance of thousands of plant and animal species which we will never know, which our children will never see, because they have been lost for ever. The great majority become extinct for reasons related to human activity. Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right.'

Do you agree with what Pope Francis is saying here?

Do we treat plants and animals like 'resources'? Should we?

As Missionary Disciples how can we help to change this and stop resources being exploited and wasted?

...

Pope Francis, Laudato Si (223)

'The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the interior to discover the action of God in the soul, but also to discover God in all things. Saint Bonaventure teaches us that "contemplation deepens the more we feel the working of God's grace within our hearts, and the better we learn to encounter God in creatures outside ourselves".'

What does this teach us about how we should treat the environment?

Have you ever seen or felt God in nature or the creatures around you? Maybe you could try this week!

How do your encounters with God in other creatures and nature help to inspire and motivate you to be a better outward-looking Christian?

Read John 10:11-18

Good Shepherd Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Easter and is a reminder to us that Jesus is always there for us, that He died on the Cross to take away our sins, and that we are loved beyond measure. Let's read the Gospel for 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and think about what it means.

In this Gospel reading we are reminded about how God came down amongst us, as one of us, as a human. We are reminded that Jesus came to serve us, and gave his life for us. It is a reminder to us that, just like Jesus, we should serve other people and put others first.

Have a look at these images. How are these people serving others?

Good Shepherd Sunday is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We have a whole booklet of resources on the theme of Vocations and you can get in touch with our Diocesan Vocation Teams who can support you in exploring the theme of Vocations further.

You could pray our Diocesan Vocations Prayer or the Vocations Prayer from the Roman Missal during this Fourth Week of Easter.

*Father,
in your plan for our salvation you provide shepherds for your people. Fill your Church with the spirit of courage and love.
Raise up worthy ministers of your altars and ardent but gentle servants of the gospel.*

Roman Missal

Good Shepherd Sunday

3



MISSIONS

Find out how you can support Cafod in their campaign to 'Reclaim our Common home'. Support the work of Cafod by fundraising and buying one of the 'Cafod World Gifts' which helps to take care of the environment. e.g. A solar lamp, Trees for life, Happy Queen Bee or even the Super Solar Street Lights. Create an action plan in school to look at how you can make your school more environmentally friendly. Perhaps your school could look into joining 'Eco Schools' to help you do this.



MISSION

Your Mission is to reflect on your vocation and come up with a way that you could serve other people. This week think about how you can serve people in school, at home, in the wider community, in the Church.

What might your vocation be in the future that will help you to serve others?

It could start today!



MISSION

Your Mission, as a disciple of Jesus, is to create an opportunity for someone else to encounter God this week so they may feel that same calling to a life with Christ too.

Could you organise a Mass or Liturgy which explores the theme of Jesus, The Good Shepherd who cares for the Lost Sheep?
Could you create a Prayer Space in your home or school which helps people to pray and talk to God?

Could you share your favourite piece of scripture with someone, and tell them what you have learnt from it about God?

Could you research the life of a saint who tried to help people to follow Jesus and see how you can follow his or her example as a Missionary Disciple?

In the Gospel (John 10:16) Jesus explains that He is there for all and He hopes that, through an encounter with Him, they will be 'sheep in His pen' too.

Missionary Discipleship



The Road to Emmaus

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to two of His Disciples. But they didn't recognise Him until after they had journeyed with Him, spoken to Him and sat down to a meal with Him. Let's explore the story a bit more.

Let's move to the 'Pentecost Resource' Section!



MISSION

Pair students up with each other, preferably with a student they don't know very well. Give students some time to write some questions to ask their partner to find out more about them. Put some example questions or topics on the board.

Give students time to either do an 'Emmaus walk' around the playground to ask questions and find out about each other, or to do the same activity sitting in pairs in the classroom, hall or chapel. Think about the sounds, smells and lighting that you can use to help create an atmosphere that will help them to encounter Jesus through the person whom they are with.

Finish with a time of sharing: how did it feel to spend time finding out about your partner? How did it feel to share information about yourself? Jesus calls us to love each other; do you think it is easier to do that when you better understand the people around you?

Jesuit Imaginative Contemplation: Road to Emmaus - Read Luke 24: 13-33

Create a relaxing atmosphere with some reflective music, and invite the students to close their eyes and place themselves into the Bible story they've just heard using the reflection below.

'Close your eyes and imagine, out in front of you, stretches a long, dusty road. Two people, two of Jesus' followers, are walking slowly, side-by-side. Put yourself into the position of one of these men.

You are walking away from Jerusalem, towards a town called Emmaus. Listen to the stones crunching underneath your sandals. Feel the breeze blowing gently past your face. The last few days have been tough for you, Jesus, the man you thought was the Messiah, who you trusted and loved, for whom you left your old life behind to follow, is gone. Tortured. Crucified. Buried. Dead. How do you feel?

As you walk, you notice a man fall into step next to you and your companion. The man asks you what you've been talking about. You feel confused, how could he not know about the things which have happened to Jesus. You don't really want to talk about it, but there is something about this man which makes you feel comfortable and safe.

You carry on along your journey and tell the man about all the bad things which have happened to Jesus. Pretty soon, you feel so comfortable with the man that you feel you want to tell him about all of your troubles too. Take some time to talk to Jesus, tell Him about what you are struggling with, what has upset you, the times when you've found life hard. (Pause)

The sun sinks a little bit lower in the sky, and the shadows of the trees on the ground stretch out in front of you like dark, twiggy hands. Your time with the man so far seems to have passed so quickly. How are you feeling now that you have shared your worries with him? Relieved? Happier? Less weighed down?

You want to lighten the mood, so you start to talk to the man about all of the good things in your life. Your friends, your family, happy memories, jokes and laughs you've shared, times you've felt loved. Take some time to share these things with Jesus. (Pause)

As you reach the end of what you are saying to the man, you realise that the sun is about to set. Luckily, there is the little cabin you are staying in for the night, just up ahead. Your companion walks into the cabin, and as you get to the door, you notice that the man you've been talking to is about to keep walking. You call out to him and invite him to come and join you for dinner.

The candle flickers brightly as you sit down for dinner with the man and your companion. The warm light reflects in the man's eyes; they seem familiar to you. He picks up the bread from the table, says a blessing over it, breaks it and gives a piece to you.

Suddenly, you realise the man is Jesus, it was Him you were talking to all along! He is alive! It was Jesus who listened to your troubles, and comforted you on the road. Jesus who shared in your stories of happiness and laughed at your jokes. Take a moment to sit with the Lord, how do you feel? (Pause)

As quickly as He'd appeared, Jesus disappears, and you are left in the room with your companion, the room suddenly a little less bright, but all of your worries and troubles are gone. Your companion turns to you and says 'Didn't our hearts burn within us when He talked to us on the road?'

The two of you get up to leave straight away, to go and tell everyone that Jesus is alive, and to help them to feel that warmth of the love of Jesus burning within them. You walk back along that straight road, the sun rising in front of you, until you come back to this place and, when you are ready, open your eyes.'

PENTECOST

pentecost resource

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are a wonderful blessing given to us by God to help us to live our lives in the best way possible and to give us the tools we need to be close to Him.

After Jesus had been crucified, the disciples were scared and hidden away in the upper room. They were worried about what would happen to them if they went back outside to carry on the work of Jesus. In the Bible we hear:

'When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world. When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages.'

Acts 2:1-6 GNT

At Confirmation candidates receive these same Gifts of the Holy Spirit, they are the tools which God has given us to help us to be Missionary Disciples: to enable us to go out, to spread His Word, His truth and His love. Saint Thomas Aquinas says that the Gifts can be split into two groups; those that guide our thoughts and mind (Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge and Counsel) and those that bring us closer to God (Piety, Fortitude and Fear of the Lord. He also pointed out that they work closely together; you can't be wise if you don't understand something and have knowledge about it. In Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians we hear about how the gifts can work through us:

'There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all. The Spirit gives one person a message full of wisdom, while to another person the same Spirit gives a message full of knowledge. One and the same Spirit gives faith to one person, while to another person he gives the power to heal.'

1 Corinthians 12:4 - 9 GNT

As you journey through these resources throughout the term, reflect on your calling to be a Missionary Disciple.

What is God going to do through you, with the power of the Holy Spirit?

Use the gifts you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

The theme of Reverence is based on the Gift of the Holy Spirit - Piety. Our theme is all about showing respect for and honour to God. We are called to show reverence and respect for God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit at all times and we can do this in many ways.

One way is by following the second of the Ten Commandments and never talking about God disrespectfully but we can also show reverence through prayer and the way that we behave.



Reverence

IDEAS

SEE



Look at these images

[LINK TO IMAGES](#)

Where can you see God in these images?

What do some of these images represent to you about God?

If you cannot find Christ in the beggar at the Church door, you will not find Him in the Chalice

St John Chrysostom

HEAR



Deuteronomy 10:19-21
Have reverence for the Lord your God.

Psalm 5: 1-3, 7-8, 11-12 Prayer for Protection.

Psalm 95: 3-7 A Song of Praise.

Psalm 111 Praise the Lord.

Proverbs 1:7 Advice for the Young.

Proverbs 9: 10-12 Wisdom and Stupidity.

Proverbs 15: 33 Reverence first.

Ecclesiastes 12: 11-14
Have reverence for God

1 Peter 3: 8-22
Suffering for doing what is right.

Be still (for the presence of the Lord) - David Evans

Be still and know that I am God - Anonymous

THINK



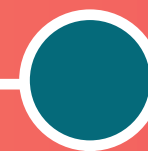
Saint Teresa of Calcutta said:
"Seeking the face of God in everything, everyone, all the time, and his hand in every happening; this is what it means to be contemplative in the heart of the world. Seeing and adoring the presence of Jesus, especially in the lowly appearance of bread, and in the distressing disguise of the poor."

Seeing Jesus in the face of those in need means that we need to treat them with the same love, honour and respect that we would treat Jesus himself. The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37) was the story that Jesus used to give his disciples an example of how to do this.

All of our churches have a tabernacle. When the Sanctuary Lamp (a special wax candle or electrical light, usually red, near the tabernacle) is lit it is a sign that Jesus is present in the tabernacle in the Blessed Sacrament. One way that we show reverence to Jesus, present in the Eucharist is by genuflecting.

How does this action help to show reverence?
What other things do you do when entering a church or sacred space to show reverence to God?

DO



This week think about how you spend your time and your money - do you respect those in need in the same way that you respect Jesus? Choose someone or a situation where you know there is someone in need and be the Good Samaritan - show him or her the reverence that you would show Jesus by helping that person and making a sacrifice for him or her.

Reverence is about respect and love for God. When we have a visitor in our schools or in our homes we make a special effort to make that person welcome and to feel comfortable, we might even save him or her a special seat, gather some favourite things, and ask people to come and say hello to the person when he or she arrives. Think about how you can do this in your school and home this week. Can you make a space for God in your life? Create a Prayer Focus - a place which is reserved for God - think about the things that remind you of God's presence in your life. Remember to check which liturgical colours to use using this handy guide. Think about how you could include other members of your school and faith community such as your Trust or the patron saint of your school to remind you of the group of disciples of which you are part.

Video:
youtu.be/bvjzs-PpZCY

MISSION
Pick someone in your class or home and create a picture of him or her as you see that person. Write a sentence underneath it to explain how you see the face of Jesus in his or her face.



The gift of knowledge is one which helps us to know what is right and wrong. This, along with the gift of Counsel, enables us to be able to make the right choices in life which will make us, and the people around us, happier and bring us closer to God. This gift also helps us to know more about God and our faith. It might sound very simple but you'll often hear people say "knowledge is power". When you take the time to learn about the world around you, you can start to see just what God has created for us. When you learn something new you grow as a person.

IDEAS

SEE



Knowledge

HEAR



Proverbs 2: 1-15
The Rewards of Wisdom.

Proverbs 18: 15
Learning.

Proverbs 24: 3-7
Wisdom, Understanding
and Knowledge.

Colossians 2: 1-5
Christ is the Key.

2 Peter 1: 1-11
God's Call and Choice.

2 Peter 3 The Promise of
the Lord's Coming.

THINK



Reflect on these quotations and statements.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Do you understand them all?

Do you agree with them all?

What knowledge do they make you think about?

Is there knowledge that you would like to develop? How do these statements influence this?

What questions do you have about your faith?

Are there things you don't know or understand?

How could you find out more and explore your faith?

Maybe there are things which make it hard for you to believe in God which you want to ask about?

Create a list of questions for your parish priest / lay chaplain / RE teacher and work together to grow in knowledge.

DO



Play 'People Bingo' with people in your class to find out more about your classmates.

How do the things you have found out help you to think about the theme of Missionary Discipleship?

What other things might you want to find out about your classmates / the saints / other Missionary Disciples?

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Get into groups and create a quiz for the other students in your class.

Try to include some questions about things you've learned in RE or about your faith this year.

What do you think are the most important things that you need to know as a follower of Jesus?

...

Invite your parish priest into class (physically or virtually) to answer the questions you might have about God, your faith and life.

What does your parish priest do when he needs to find new knowledge?

Video:
youtu.be/ymWwzAKTJso

MISSION

Can you learn a new piece of knowledge and then teach it to someone else? Maybe it could be a fact about Jesus, or our faith? Or it could be something completely random! How does it feel to share your knowledge? What do you hope to learn next?



The gift of Understanding is similar to Wisdom. However, with Wisdom, we want to know more about God, while with Understanding we are more able to get to grips with our faith and our relationship with God. This is also an important gift to remind us that understanding other people, and the situations from which they come, will help us to have better relationships with them and fewer arguments.

IDEAS

SEE



Have a go at one of these puzzles and see how well you understand how to decipher the code!



Understanding

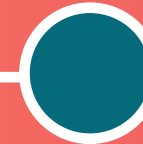
HEAR



THINK



DO



Psalm 119: 33-40 A Prayer for Understanding

Proverbs 2: 1-15
The Rewards of Wisdom

Proverbs 18: 2
Understanding

Proverbs 24: 3-7 Wisdom, Understanding and Knowledge.

Job 28: 28 To understand, you must turn from evil

Matthew 13: 1-23 The Parable of the Sower - Jesus explains His parable so that those who listen can understand

Read Acts 2:1-13 - The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Why do you think the people of Jerusalem were so excited and surprised that they could all understand the disciples?

Do you think that the disciples understood what had happened to them?

Why do you think God thought it important to give the disciples the gift of Understanding in this way?

How do you think the gift of Understanding could be used by you today?

Play a game of 'Pass it on' with your classmates.

How easy is it to be mis-understood?

What could this show us about when we hear what someone else might have said about us from another person?

Create a code puzzle, like the one you did at the start, about the story of Pentecost for a friend.

What symbols might you use to help him or her to understand?

What are the most important details to include so he or she understands what happened?

Video:
youtu.be/haMAffeB4jE

MISSION

Do something this week to show that you understand how someone else is feeling. If he or she has done something he or she is proud of you could congratulate him or her. If he or she is feeling sad you could do something to cheer him or her up, like listening to him or her, or making a drink or a snack. If he or she looks lonely, perhaps you could ask him or her to play with you?



The gift of Wisdom helps us to see the bigger picture, to understand that our relationship with God, as well as the people around us, is more important than material things and money. It helps us to see that, even when bad things happen, God is there and that good can come out of it. It helps us to concentrate on growing closer to God, rather than growing a large following on Twitter or Instagram or being the most popular person on the playground!



Wisdom

IDEAS

SEE



Watch this video which explains the gift of Wisdom.

VIDEO LINK

Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen.

St Thomas Aquinas

Video:
youtu.be/ycDutEcYRBA

BONUS MISSION!

By looking through the eyes of God, we can see that there are people in need in our world. Your bonus challenge is, as a class, to write letters or draw some pictures to cheer up some people who might be struggling a bit at the moment. Choose some people to send them to. They could be people working very hard in the NHS, or some residents of a local care home who might not have been able to see their family as much as they would have liked to, some patients of a local hospital or to send to a local food bank for them to give out with food parcels to give people hope.

HEAR



1 Kings 3: 5-15 Solomon Prays for Wisdom.

Job 28 In Praise of Wisdom.

Proverbs 2: 1-15 The Rewards of Wisdom.

Proverbs 2:6 - Wisdom comes from God.

Proverbs 3: 1-35 Advice to the Young.

Proverbs 8 In Praise of Wisdom.

Proverbs 16: 14-16 A Wise Person.

Proverbs 18: 4, 20-21 Words.

Proverbs 24: 3-7 Wisdom, Understanding and Knowledge.

Ecclesiastes 7: 1-25 Thoughts about Life.

Sirach 1: 1-20 In Praise of Wisdom.

Sirach 1: 25-30 Wisdom and Reverence for God.

James 1: 2-6 Faith and Wisdom.

James 3: 13-18 The Wisdom from Above.

THINK



'it is the grace of being able to see everything with the eyes of God.'

'Wisdom is what the Holy Spirit works in us so as to enable us to see things with the eyes of God. This is the gift of wisdom.'

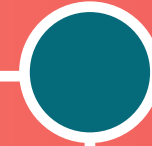
Pope Francis, General Audience, Wednesday, 9 April 2014, (1)

...

Rather than seeing the world and the decisions we make through the lens of our own brokenness, we look at them in the way of our Loving Father.

What does it mean to see things through the eyes of God? Do you think it would change the way you see things, or the way you act? Why?

DO



Explore this interesting activity from 'Ministry to Youth' which you could try as a class to help you to think more about the gift of Wisdom.

Lesson Overview

Bible: "Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." – Proverbs 1:7

The Point: Wisdom is living life God's way. It's not just knowing the right thing to do, but doing actually doing the right thing.

Three steps to being wise: 1) Rely on God. 2) Think before you act. 3) Use failure as your teacher.

Pick one of the pieces of scripture above and create a piece of artwork about it.

MISSION

Create some 'God-glasses' in class or at home. Decorate them, add on a quotation from your favourite piece of scripture about Wisdom. Wear them in school as a class one day and make sure that everything you do or say, comes after you have looked 'through the eyes of God'!



The theme of Decisions is based on the Gift of The Holy Spirit, Counsel. Counsel is like right judgment - it helps us to be able to make the right decisions in life. Through this gift, and using some of the other gifts like knowledge, wisdom and understanding, the Holy Spirit helps us to know what is right or wrong, and to choose to do the right thing.



Decisions

IDEAS

SEE



Watch this video which explains the gift of Counsel. (Secondary)

Watch this video about making good decisions. (Primary)

What words of Jesus could you think about as you go through the traffic light stages to help you to make the right decision?

Can you think of any situations in your life when you've reacted too quickly and made a bad decision? How could you have acted differently? How would that have made the outcome different?

HEAR



1 Kings 3: 16-28
Solomon's Wisdom in Judgment.

Proverbs 3: 5-6
The Lord will show you the right way.

Proverbs 15: 1-10
The Lord loves those who do what is right.

James 1: 1-18
Believe and do not doubt

Video:
youtu.be/OYBZ72CvTiY

THINK

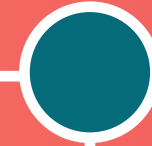


*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

— Saint Teresa of Ávila (attributed)

What does this prayer from Saint Teresa mean?
How does it link to the theme of decisions?
How do you think you might act if you follow this message?

DO



Have a go at some of these activities and games to help focus your class on the importance of making the right choices and how it links to our faith.

CLICK FOR ACTIVITIES AND GAMES

MISSION

When you have decisions to make this week, whether they are big decisions or something which happens to you and you have to act quickly - take a few seconds to pause, spend time with God and think about what He wants you to do. Let your teacher know at the end of the week how this went for you and whether you made better decisions.



The theme of Courage this week is based on the Gift of The Holy Spirit, Fortitude. Fortitude, helps us to be brave enough to make difficult decisions, to do the right thing even when we know it will be tough and to stand up for our faith, our beliefs and for other people.



Speak the truth in a million voices. It is silence that kills.

St Catherine of Siena

Courage

IDEAS

SEE



Watch this clip from A bug's Life (Spoiler Alert - it is towards the end of the film!)

Who was showing courage in this clip and how was courage shown?

How did courage help Flick to make the right choice?

When Flick used courage to stand up to Hopper, what impact did that have on the rest of the ants?

What can we learn from this about how our choices could impact others?

LINK TO CLIP

HEAR



Deuteronomy 31:6 - God goes with us, he won't leave or forsake us.

Joshua 1:9 - God is with us always, do not be scared.

Psalm 27:14 - Let your heart take courage.

Daniel 6 - Daniel in the Lion Pit

Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

2 Timothy 1:7 - God gave us a spirit of love, not fear.

Video:
youtu.be/7IHWbIEA6ys

THINK



Watch this clip of A little bit Brave being read.

LINK TO CLIP

When Logan was not being brave, do you think he was happy? Why?

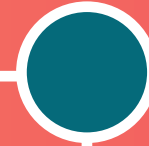
What was Logan missing out on when he was not using courage?

What was it that encouraged Logan to be brave in the end?

How did Logan feel when he'd been brave enough to try all of the new things and adventures?

How did courage help Logan to make the right decision?

DO



Read Life doesn't frighten me, by Maya Angelou.

Have a go at writing your own poem about courage. Are there any examples of courage from the Bible, or the lives of saints, or even people that you know personally that you could include?

LINK TO TEXT

MISSION

Do something brave this week.

This might be trying something new, to stand up for something you believe in, or to be brave enough to make a difficult decision.

Pray to the Holy Spirit and ask for courage this week.



This week's theme, 'Awesome', is based on a gift which has a strange name; 'Fear of the Lord', which is sometimes called, 'Wonder and Awe in God's Presence'.

This gift isn't about us being scared of God, it is more about us being able to recognise how powerful God is and helping us to recognise His power and glory in all of the creation, nature, creatures and people around us. If we can see that, then we will treat other people, and the world around us, with love and respect.

God, and His unconditional love, are too big for us to understand and we sometimes fear the unknown, but this gift helps us to be excited about what we don't know, to respect God, and to respect the power that God has in our lives with an awed reverence and excitement.

It can also be seen as the gift which helps us to have 'holy fears'. It helps us to be concerned over the things which matter, rather than the things that don't. For example, being a good friend is something to be concerned about, whereas making sure that your hair is perfect isn't!



Awesome

IDEAS

SEE



Watch Fear of the Lord explained in this video.

LINK TO CLIP

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

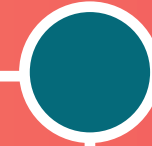
HEAR



THINK



DO



Deuteronomy 10:12
The Essence of the Law

Psalm 19: 1-6
God's Glory in Creation.

Psalm 33:8
Let all the earth fear the Lord

Luke 1: 46-55
Mary's Song of Praise

Philippians 2: 12-18
Shining as Lights in the World

Think of someone whom you love and respect the most in the whole world, and who loves you back.
Picture that person in your head.

How would it make you feel if that person was upset?
Now, how would it make you feel if it was you who had made him or her upset?

Now think about God, who loves us more than anyone else in the whole world could, because He made us and gave us life. Would you want to do something to upset God, knowing how much He loves you?

This feeling of not wanting to offend God, who loves us so much, comes from the gift of Fear of the Lord. Not a fear of what God will do to us, but a fear and concern of letting Him down and growing distant from Him.

Have a go at these activities to help you and your class understand the gift of Fear of the Lord.
Think about what you are hoping for in the year ahead.

We often think of hope and fear as mutually exclusive, but the Fear of the Lord is the desire not to offend Him, and the certainty that He will give us the grace necessary to keep from doing so. It is that certainty that gives us hope.

The Fear of the Lord is like the respect we have for our parents. We do not wish to offend them, but we also do not live in fear of them, in the sense of being frightened.
We do not know what lies before us but we trust and hope in the Lord, knowing that He wants the best for us.

CLICK FOR ACTIVITIES AND GAMES

Video:
[/youtu.be/qnAvPcv-RS0](https://youtu.be/qnAvPcv-RS0)

MISSION

Spend some time outside this week.
Find somewhere that you think is beautiful and reminds you of how powerful God is, and how much He loves you by making these surroundings for you.
Take some time to be with God and to say thank you.





Gifts of the Spirit

Missionary Discipleship Resource

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**Written in 2021 by Marsha Kemple and Tom Shannon
on behalf of Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT and St Thomas Aquinas CMAT**