

Teaching Plan - Learning more about Jesus in everyday things (maps)

Aim - To learn that when we do wrong things, we need to say sorry and change direction.



Welcome

What's in the bag? Pass it round and give people the opportunity to feel it and guess what is in it.

Items: A compass, a map - perhaps a sat-nav



Game

Everyone moves around the room - when the leader shouts change everyone turns and moves in the opposite direction.

and/or

Everyone in a circle - start a Mexican wave - anyone can shout "change" when the wave is at them - when they do the wave changes direction. Start very slowly and then build up the speed.



Bible reading: Psalm 32:1- 5 and 8



Drama (Based on Luke 7:26 - 50)

As the narrator says the line "**But Jesus liked her and seemed pleased to see her**" everyone repeats it.

Jesus was a man who did lots of walking - he usually wore open sandals and the paths were quite dusty, sometimes muddy.

What do you think his feet would be like?

A man called Simon asked Jesus to come for dinner at his house and meet his friends. They did not sit at a table but on the floor.

Just when they had started to eat a woman came in - the people having the meal said, "Who let her in here - she is a nasty, bad woman - she is always up to something wrong".

What do you think she might have done that was wrong?

But Jesus liked her and seemed pleased to see her.

The woman did something very strange - she had a big bottle of a lovely special foot-wash with a beautiful perfume (let people smell it) - looked as if it would cost a lot of money. She poured the whole lot over Jesus tired and dirty feet and then she cleaned and dried them.

Simon and his friends shouted "Get her out of here - she's crazy"

But Jesus liked her and seemed pleased to see her.

Jesus said to her "Thank you for doing that - my feet feel great - you have been very kind to me"

Then Jesus said something else to her - he knew about all the wrong things she had done.

But Jesus liked her and seemed pleased to see her.

Jesus said to her - I forgive you for all the wrong things you have done - go in peace.

The woman went away from the house happy - she was like a new person. She would be trying to do the right thing from now on.



Talk

We all do things that are wrong - we make mistakes, we get angry at people, we don't like to share, we want our own way, we say nasty

things.

Jesus never did anything wrong - he is the only person who ever lived who never did wrong so that means everyone here does bad things - all of us. Sometimes we feel very unhappy about what we have done, and we feel we are carrying it around with us like a big heavy weight. (As an example, try asking someone to hold a glass of water - ask them how much it weighs - ask them to keep holding it - does it feel heavier the longer we hold it?)

Through the Bible God has told us that all we need to do is come and speak to him in prayer and say sorry and then He will forgive us - even better He says he will not ever bring it up again - so if God says that's it done so should we.

Jesus told us this important thing - after we say sorry and God has forgiven us - we need to change our ways - you could say we need to turn around from the wrong way and face the right way. (As an example, you could mention or have a picture of a road or street that is well known in your area e.g the M8 goes from Glasgow to Edinburgh. As you think you are nearly at Glasgow you notice a sign for Edinburgh Airport - you are on the right road but heading the wrong way - you need to turn around)

God is a great - he loves us so much that he does not want us feeling bad about the times we mess things up - all we need to do is say sorry (and mean it), ask him to forgive us and he will and then try very hard not to do the same thing again. That is very good news.



Prayer Time

Give everyone a piece of black card to hold - you will also need a bin for later.

Leader say: If you have a big fight,
All say: **Say sorry.**
Leader say: If you do wrong, not right,

All say: **Say sorry.**
Leader say: When you say something bad
and it makes someone sad,
God says, 'Please put it right.'
All say: **Say sorry.'**

Ask people to silently say sorry to God then remind them what the Bible says:

But if we confess our sins, God will forgive us. We can trust God to do this. He always does what is right. He will make us clean from all the wrong things we have done. 1 John 1:9

Invite people to rip up their card and put it in the rubbish bin.



Possible Craft

Make a wrist band - could have a Bible verse (keep it simple) or something like - *I'm going the right way on it.* People can decorate it and wear.



Possible Songs

Jesus the start of it all (Prospects)
I'm special because God has loved me.
Jesus loves me
The Father Himself loves you.