

God is always with us - Don't Be Worried

Passage: Psalm 23

Theme: Christian's believe that God is always with us, so we don't have to be worried

Resources: Memory stick with song words and music; CD with music on; Laptop (check cable); Projector (check 2 cables); Extension lead; Schools team t-shirts (3 spare); Spare scripts.

Guitar; Crown (for David); Robe (for David); Clipboard; Paper; Pen; PowerPoint (for talk and drama); Chair (use one from school).

Person 1 - Person 1, David, Questions

Person 2 - Person 2, Prayer

Person 3 - Narrator, Talk

Introduction

(Set a chair on the stage ready for the introduction)

(Person 2 hidden badly behind a chair, Person 1 walks onto stage)

Person 1: Hello everyone, we are so pleased to be back with you again! We are _____ (insert church/organisation name), I am _____, and this is _____ (introduce rest of the team). [Looks around to see the other person behind the chair, introduces them awkwardly] And this is _____. Why are you behind that chair?

Person 2: Shhhhhh! You can't see me!

Person 1: I can and so can everyone else. What are you doing?

Person 2: I'm hiding.

Person 1: But why?

Person 2: Because I'm worried about being on camera, I don't like being filmed.

Person 1: And so that means you need to hide behind a chair?!

Person 2: If I hide behind this chair, I won't have to do it.

Person 1: Oh! You don't need to be worried.

Person 2: That's easy for you to say. You've been doing this for ages.

Person 1: I used to be scared as well when I first started doing this. The first time I spoke on camera, my knees knocked together and I sounded like a machine gun. A-a-a-a-a-and s-s-s-s-o!

Person 2: (Pause) I'm still scared doing this on my own!

Person 1: How about if I stand next to you? Would you feel better if I was there with you? I can help if you get stuck.

Person 2: Oh yes, that would make me feel loads better.

Person 1: Come out from behind the chair...

Person 2: (Slowly standing up from behind chair) It's still going to be hard....

Person 1: Even if it's hard, I will be with you, so you don't have to be scared,

Person 2: (Looking happier) OK

[Person 1 moves next to Person 2]

Person 2: We are going to be having a think today about time when we have been worried or scared. To start with, can you have a think about your favourite musician or singer? Maybe it is Ed Sheeran, or Taylor Swift, or Harry Styles? Well, in Bible times, there was a musician and songwriter called David and today we are going to be hearing all about a Psalm he wrote. A psalm is kind of like a song or a poem. The psalm we are going to hear about today tells us about how David knew that God was always with him.

CHRIST CHURCH
WINCHESTER
Schools
team

Story/Drama:

[David acts along to what the narrator is saying]

Narr: David was a shepherd boy, but when God looked at him, he saw a King, and sure enough when David grew up he became a great King [Narrator places crown on David's head]. He defeated the giant warrior Goliath [David mime throwing sling]. He protected God's people [David mime waving sword around]. He won lots of battles. He rescued God's people from their enemies [David throws arms up as if cheering]. David wasn't perfect but he knew God was always with him, no matter what. David enjoyed writing songs [David sits on a chair with guitar], they were called Psalms. He was the Ed Sheeran of his day. And so, David wrote this psalm to tell people about God.

[David writes on clipboard]

David: God is my Shepherd, I have everything I need.
He gives me rest in green pastures.
He leads me to calm water.
He gives me new strength.
He leads me on paths that are right.
Even if I walk through the darkest valley,
I will not be afraid,
Because you, God, are with me.
Your rod and your staff comfort me.

Talk

Have you ever woken up in the middle of the night and it's dark and maybe you've felt scared? Can you have a think about some of the things that you find scary, or maybe some things that make you feel a little worried? [pause]

David starts his psalm by describing God as a shepherd who looks after his sheep and gives them everything they need. When David is tired and worn out, God makes him feel better. God keeps him out of danger and shows him the right way to go. Shepherds always stay with their sheep to look after them, and David is saying that God always stays with him and cares for him. David knows that he has to face scary things sometimes, but he isn't scared because he knows that God is always with him. Even in the darkest valley, when he can't see God, he knows God is there with him, and because he knows that, he doesn't need to be worried.

It's a bit like at the start of our assembly. _____ (*insert name*) was hiding behind the chair because they were scared to stand up and speak to the camera. That scared them. But _____ (*insert name*) promised them that they would stand with them. _____ (*insert* would be with them so they didn't have to be worried. Christians believe God is always with us so we don't have to be worried.

It's also a bit like coming back to school at the beginning of September. You might have felt a bit worried and things probably looked a bit different. But Christians believe that we aren't alone when we feel worried or scared, Christians believe God is always with us so we don't have to be worried. Maybe you've got to face something you're a little worried or scared about soon? Well, we can remember that Christians believe that God is always with us, so we don't have to be worried.

Song: You are in the city

[Introduce actions and get the children stood up ready to join in]

Questions:

I am going to ask you some questions so you can show me how well you've been listening.

1. In the Bible what was the name that we gave for the type of song or poem that David wrote? [*Psalm*]
2. What sort of person did David say that God was like in the Psalm? [*A shepherd who gave good things, guided him, was always with him*]
3. What have we learnt today about what Christians believe? [*Christians believe God is always with us, so we don't have to be worried or scared*]

Prayer:

To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. So, if you can please close your eyes so you aren't distracted and if you agree with my prayer, you can join in with "Amen" at the end.

Dear God, thank you so much for _____ (*insert school name*). Thank you that we have learnt from this story that Christians believe that you are always with us so we don't have to be worried or scared. Please help us to remember this when we are scared or worried. I pray you will bless every child and every member of staff in this school. **Amen.**

Close:

Thank you for having us today and we hope to see you again soon.