

The Kind Stranger

Passage: Luke 10:25-37

Theme: Christians believe we should treat others how we want to be treated

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.

Robber costume; 3 costumes (that go over the top of each other - Samaritan, Important person, Priest); 2 head dresses; Hobby horse; Inn sign; Birthday invitations.

Person 1 - Person 1, Jewish man, Prayer

Person 2 - Introduction, Robber/Priest/Important man, Questions

Person 3 - Narrator, Talk

Introduction:

(Please note that there is a little extra part for intro person at the end of the talk)

Intro: 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)*.

Now today...

Person 1: *(Running on stage, interrupting introduction)* Hey everyone, it's my birthday this weekend, and you're invited to my party *(hand invite to team member sat down - NOT INTRO PERSON)* and you're invited and

you're invited (*hand invites to a few children*). You're ALL invited, all except you(*look at intro person*) They're the only person not invited. (*walk off stage*)

Intro: Oh, well that wasn't very kind. They interrupted my introduction and then invited everyone to their party but not me, they've really upset me, but it's also my birthday this weekend too and I've got invitations to my birthday party. Now I don't know what to do. Maybe I won't invite them either. [*pause*] Well before I make my decision, we are going to hear a story from the Bible today that I think will help me decide. Jesus told this story from the Bible to help people understand how we should treat each other...

Story/Drama:

Narrator: There was once a Jewish man walking down the road.

[Man enters wearing headdress and starts walking across the stage]

He was walking all the way from Jerusalem (*point to right*) to Jericho (*point to left*). The man was walking through a steep valley, when suddenly some robbers attacked him.

[Robber attacks man centre stage]

They took everything he had, all his money, and left him to die on the side of the road.

Now along came a priest,

[Robber change costume to Priest. Priest walks across stage, walks past man]

but when he saw the man lying on the side of the road he... just hurried on by. Then an important person came along

[Priest change to important person. Important person walks across stage, walks past man]

But when he saw the man lying on the side of the road he also... just hurried on by. The man was still left lying on the side of the road. Finally, a Samaritan man came by.

[Important person changes to Samaritan man. Samaritan man walks onto stage, stops and helps man]

When he saw the man, he took pity on him. He stopped... bandaged up his wounds... and carried him on his donkey all the way to an inn. He gave money to the innkeeper and promised to pay for any extra food, or medicine as he recovered.

Talk:

In our story from the Bible today, Jesus is asked how people should treat each other, so Jesus tells this story. A man is walking from the city of Jerusalem to Jericho and is attacked by robbers who beat him and leave him at the side of the road. A little while later a priest comes along. Now the priest works in the temple and tells people how God wants them to live. Surely this man will stop and care for the injured man... But no, the priest hurries on by. Then, an important man from the city comes past. Surely he will stop and help his neighbour... But no, he hurries on by too. Both the priest and the important man hurry on by even though they are the man's friends and neighbours. Maybe they have places to go, or other things to do...

Finally, a Samaritan man walks by. Now the man lying on the road is a Jew, and in Jesus' time Samaritans and Jews are enemies. They hate each other. It would be like if someone had bullied you. Then someone else had beaten up the bully. Would you help them? Surely the Samaritan will just hurry on by as well? But, that's not what the Samaritan does. The Samaritan stops and he helps the man, he bandages his wounds, puts him on a donkey and takes him to an inn to recover, he even pays the bills. This is a man, who could have hated the poor injured man, but he doesn't hurry on by. He stops and he helps him.

Christians believe that we should treat each other how we want to be treated. If we were lying hurt beside a road, would we want people to stop? Would we even want an enemy to stop and help us? Christians believe that we should treat others how we want to be treated.

It's a bit like at the start of the assembly [Person 1] had interrupted [Intro]'s intro, and then invited everyone else to their birthday party except [Intro]. But after hearing this story from the Bible, let's see what [Intro] decides to do:

Intro: Well even though [Person 1] was really mean to me and didn't invite me to their birthday party, I'm still going to invite them to my party because I think I should treat them how I want to be treated.

Talk:

Christians believe that we should treat others how we want to be treated. Sometimes that might be really hard. So maybe the next time you're inviting people to your birthday party, or the next time someone leaves you out of a game, or the next time your mum spends hours in the kitchen making dinner then puts something you don't like down in front of you [make a face], you can remember this story from the Bible and remember that Christians believe that we should treat other people how we want to be treated.

Song: Our God is a Great Big God.

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

Questions:

I am now going to ask you some questions so you can show me how well you've been listening. Now, I won't be able to hear your answers, but you might want to shout out your answers anyway. Or, teachers, you can pause the video, let the children discuss and answer, then press play to hear the answers.

1. What happened to the man on the road? (*He got attacked and robbed*)
2. Who stopped and helped the man? (*The Samaritan*)
3. What have we learnt about what Christians believe? (*Christians believe that we should treat others how we want to be treated*)

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 what I say, 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 we should treat others how we want to be treated. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. **Amen.**

Close:

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