

Ideas for themes for worship that can last a half term

Always keeping in mind:

- How does this impact on me as a person, my values, my moral compass, my self-image?
- How does this impact on my actions in the community, as a friend, as a helper, as family member, as an activist for peace and justice, as a steward of creation?
- How does this help me to see beauty in our world? To live in the moment with peace and joy? To find out what inspires me, makes me courageous, makes me content?
- How does this help me form my own philosophy? Answer ultimate questions about life, the universe and everything?

Ideas:

- **The Church's liturgical year** - Advent – all about preparing ourselves to make the world a better place, Lent – reflecting on our lives and what is important to us, Christmas – bringing peace and goodwill into the world, Easter – generosity, sacrifice to help others, and joy. Of course, Harvest for thankfulness, Pentecost for the Spirit in our lives, Saints days, and so on.
- **Focusing on one person** – Peter with his courage, betrayal, self-doubt, self-forgiveness, strength, loyalty.
- **Focusing on the parables of Jesus** – the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, the Lost Sheep, the Vineyard parables, the Parable of the seed etc.
- **Focusing on the miracles of Jesus** – healing the outcast lepers, restoring sight to the blind, restoring mobility to those who were lame, restoring life to the little girl, the huge catch of fish, calming the storm, the Feeding of the Five Thousand etc.
- **Focusing on the actions of Jesus** – eating with sinners, protecting the rights of women and children, fiercely challenging prejudice and greed, dealing with fear and pain courageously, etc
- **The Journey** - (Maybe including old testament journeys such as Abraham's journey, Moses's journey, Ruth's journey, etc, or new testament people, like Paul, Luke, Mary and of course Jesus)
- **The Lord's Prayer**- Taking a line at a time and using it for that week of worship – Heaven is in everything, sharing our bread with others, forgiveness, making good choices all come out of this theme.
- **A song** – “Brother, Sister let me serve you” – taking a verse at a time can give lovely ideas for a week of worship on the themes of serving each other and our world, enduring times of difficulty, living in a positive and joyful way etc.
- **The Beatitudes** – again, one verse at a time per week to give the stimulus for thoughts on compassion, courage, struggles through difficult times, mental health etc.
- **The Names or Titles of Jesus** - I am the good shepherd, I am the water of life, I am the way, the truth and the life, I am the vine, I am the bread of life, I am the light of the world.
- **School values** - What are the best Bible stories that show these values in action? Old or new testament. How do we show these in action in our lives?
- **Stewards of Creation** – St Francis, The psalms, God is in everything, Water of life etc