10 MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

The Prodigal Son

Second Level - Session 2

tenbiblestories.org

SCOTTISH BIBLE SOCIETY

Session 2 - Exploring Sin, Repentance, Forgiveness and Restoration

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
Through investigating and reflecting upon biblical and other Christian stories, I can show my understanding of these stories. **RME 2-01a** Through exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, I am increasing my knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs. **RME 2-01b** I can show understanding of Christian beliefs and explore the similarities and differences between these and my developing beliefs. **RME 2-01c**	Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion with at least one reason on at least one belief from Christianity. Discusses ways in which own beliefs can affect actions.
Through investigating and reflecting upon the lives of Jesus and key Christian figures, and drawing upon moral values as expressed in Christianity, I am beginning to understand how these have influenced Christian morality. **RME 2-02a** I can share my developing views about values such as fairness and equality and love, caring, sharing and human rights. **RME 2-02b** I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values. **RME 2-07a**	Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from Christianity. Discusses ways in which own values can affect actions. Discusses and expresses views about the importance of values such as honesty, respect and compassion.

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
I can explain why different peple think that values such as honesty, respect and compassion are important, and I show respect for others. **RME 2-09c** I am developing my understanding of how my own and other people's beliefs and values affect their actions. **RME 2-09d**	

Suggested Learning Intentions

- Children will become familiar with the meanings of the words 'sin' 'repentance' 'forgiveness' 'restoration'.
- Children will explore the intended meaning of the parable.

Suggested Success Criteria

- I can identify where the actions of 'sin' 'repentance' 'forgiveness' 'restoration' occur in the story.
- I can ask and answer questions on the story.
- I can suggest an intended meaning to the story.

Resources Required for this Session

Children's Bibles.

Human Buzzer Quiz. (Available in additional resources)

Pictures from the story. Enough sets for groups of 4 or 5. (Use the images from the PowerPoint 'Tale of Two Sons', downloadable at bibleworld.co.uk/resources Print them 2 to a page for sequencing.

The words 'sin', 'restoration' 'repentance' 'forgiveness' written out. Enough sets for each group to have 1 each. (NB 4 or 5 copies of 'sin' per group. 1 each of the other words)

Beach ball with questions written on.

Notes

- Please remember that it is the intention that this learning is extended into other curricular areas as described in the introductory document.
- Suggested amounts of time per activity have been included. This is a guideline.

Activity

1. Remind the children what we've been learning about. Recap the information in Activity 2 in 'Hear and Explore the Story'.

   Recap the story with an active quiz. Use 'Human Buzzers' (see additional resources) **10 minutes**

   Read it for yourself in the Bible (give them Bibles in twos with the story marked.) They need to check the evidence for themselves. Ask them to consider: Did you tell the story correctly? Did you miss anything out? **10 minutes**

2. Split the children into groups. Provide each group with a set of pictures from the story. (Use the images in the PowerPoint 'Tale of Two Sons' from bibleworld.co.uk/resources, print them 2 to a page for sequencing). Ask the children to sequence the pictures in the right order to retell the story. Leave your pictures in order. **10 minutes**

3. Consider these four words together. Ask the children if they know what they mean? Explain the meanings if necessary.

   - SIN: Sin is wrong stuff we do/say/think. Sin is not just breaking God's rules. It is putting yourself in the place of God as ruler of the world. Thinking you know best.
   - REPENTANCE: Being sorry and proving it. Stopping the wrong behaviour. Starting the right behaviour.
   - FORGIVENESS: stop feeling angry or resentful towards someone for a mistake or hurt.
   - RESTORATION: Making something like new. Discuss in terms of restoring furniture and then introduce idea of restoring relationships. Almost like by restoring friendship you are proving you have really forgiven someone. **5-10 minutes**

4. Provide each group with the words on pieces of paper (4 or 5 copies of 'sin', one of each of the other 3.) Ask them to identify in the story where they see sin/repentance/forgiveness/restoration and to place the paper words onto the pictures at that place. **5-10 minutes**

5. Come back together to expand on and discuss these concepts in the story. You could just have a class discussion, or give each child a whiteboard and get them to write down answers. Or write questions on a beach ball, stand in circle and throw it round – which ever question is on the top when you ask it is the one you have to answer.

   - Which brother sinned? (both do)

- Does the younger brother know he's sinned? (yes)
- Does the older brother know he's sinned? (no, not until the Father points it out)
- What do they do once they realise they've sinned? (younger – comes back to the Father, older – ignores the problem)
- What is the Father's (God's) response to both? (invites them back to the family)
- Was it hard for the younger son to repent?
- Is it hard for the Father to forgive? Does it cost him? Does it cost anyone? **10-15 minutes**

6. What do you think God wants Christians to learn from this part of the story? Use this as last question of the discussion or leave it as a challenge to think about. **5 minutes**