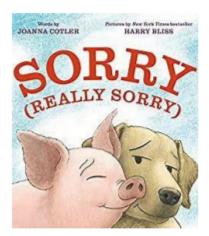
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – YEAR 1 – RECONCILIATION

EXPLORE: Sometimes our choices are right and sometimes they are wrong

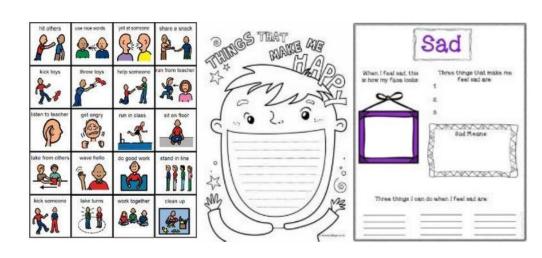


Read and share together: Sorry (really sorry) by Joanna Cotler Full book available on You Tube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjb0NVivGUI

Talk about the situations where we must choose what to do and how sometimes we make good choices – good for others and for ourselves – and sometimes we make wrong choices which make others and ourselves unhappy.

Choose Activities

- Give children an assortment of pictures children to sort into 'good choices/wrong choices' and talk about what is happening in each picture. (See next page 5 for ideas)
- Complete a worksheet: Things that make me happy ... Things that make me sad. (See below for ideas)



REVEAL: Jesus forgives us when we make wrong choices.

Read and share together: God's Story 2 pages 70-71 Good News for Zacchaeus, based on Luke 19:1-10.

Talk about when we make wrong choices like Zacchaeus did, we need to show that we are sorry in some way.

Talk together and answer these questions...

What wrong choices did Zacchaeus make?

How did Zacchaeus feel when Jesus told him that he was coming to his house?

Why did the people complain?

How did Zacchaeus show he was sorry for his wrong choices?

Why was it a happy day for Zacchaeus?

Choose Activities

- Make a story board of the events for the display.
- Insert some speech bubbles onto the picture from God's Story 2 page 70 and ask the children to put in the words that Jesus and Zacchaeus spoke to each other. (Please see page 7)
- Make a prayer card with the words 'Sorry!' on one side and 'Thank you!' on the other. Ask children to keep this safe at home. Ask them, when they go to bed, to think about the good things that have happened and say, 'Thank you!' to God for them. Then to think about the wrong choices they have made and say 'Sorry!'

Zacchaeus couldn't get down fast enough! His heart was beating fast, he was so full of joy. He could hear some of them muttering and complaining. "He has gone to stay at a sinner's house," they said.

Zacchaeus looked at Jesus. "Look, sir." he said, "I'm going to give half my belongings to the poor and if I have cheated anybody, I will pay him back four times the amount." Jesus smiled at him and said. "I am glad, Zacchaeus. This is indeed a happy day for you because I have come to your house today specially to help you change, so that you will please my Father."



Zacchaeus was lonely, but then he never expected to be anything else. After all, he was a chief tax collector and nobody liked tax collectors. His job was to collect the people's money for the Romans.

Everyone hated him for it, and he paid them back whenever he could by taking too much money and then keeping it for himself. No wonder he was rich! But then that didn't make him any less lonely. One day, there was a crowd gathered in the streets of Jericho because Jesus was passing through. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he couldn't because he was a small man. He ran ahead of the crowd and climbed up a sycamore tree. He could see Jesus guille clearly now.

Jesus came near the free, looked up at Zacchaeus and said, "Hurry down, Zacchaeus. I want to stay at your house today."

