



5–11s Resources

Theme Teaching
Week 5 Unlearning

Last update 07.09.2018

WELCOME



Welcome the children in the usual way. Ask what they remember from last week about the importance of choosing the right role model. Talk very briefly about this for the benefit of any children who were not present last week.

AIMS



- ▶ To understand that if we learn to do anything wrongly we have to unlearn it and start again and learn to do it properly.
- ▶ To know that Jesus challenged the way people thought and he required them to unlearn some of their thinking and relearn in his way.
- ▶ To understand that Jesus challenges us to think about what we do and say and to be willing to change if need be.

STARTER



Talk about the following situations:

- ▶ **Somebody teaches you to spell your name wrongly 'Jonh' instead of John and 'Mandie' instead of Mandy. What do you do? Stop writing it like that and learn how to do it correctly.**
- ▶ **Somebody tells you that ice cream is poisonous so you do not eat it. You see other people eating it and wonder why it does not poison them. You find out that you have been misinformed. You change your thinking and start eating ice cream.**
- ▶ **A bully tells you that it is ok to call some people names and make them cry. You do this, until one day somebody calls you names and makes you cry. You immediately know that this is wrong and you have to unlearn what the bully told you to know that such behaviour is not ok.**

BIBLE



We heard in session one that the synagogue was a place of rules. They had a lot of different rules about what made a person good and what made a person bad. These were concerned with what they ate and what they wore and what they did and when they did it.

Show cards with the following words on: Designer clothes, fashion, money, pop music, good grades at school, fame, healthy food, lots of exercise, good computer skills, mountain bike, Olympic gold medal [Template 5A](#).

Ask the children to put these cards in order: What makes a good person?

Designer Clothes	Fashion
Money	Pop Music
Good Grades at School	Fame
Healthy Food	Lots of Exercise
Computer Skills	Own a Kindle
Olympic Medallist	Marathon Runner

Jesus teaches that all these external things do not make a person good. What makes a person good is what is going on in their heart and mind. What are they thinking? What are they feeling? What are their attitudes towards other people?

What would we write on our cards to give a list of qualities of a good person? [Template 5B](#)

Loving, caring about everybody, looking after those in need, putting the needs of others first, being generous, sharing, patient, good listener etc.

Help children to come to the understanding that being Jesus shaped is about what goes on inside of us and it is not about doing the things which the world calls great.

Loving
Caring about everyone always
Looking after those in need
Putting others before ourselves
Being generous & hospitable
Sharing what we have
Being patient
Being a good listener

ACTIVITY



Wrap a bar of soap in paper that is decorated with hearts. Attach a label that reads 'Create in me a clean heart'

Give the children a cardboard heart. On one side stick or write the words:

Change my heart, Jesus
Make it ever true;
Change my heart Jesus
May I be like you?

The children then draw around their heart on silver or gold paper. Cut out the drawn heart and stick it back to back with the heart containing the words. The answer to their prayer (in the words) comes when they turn over and see the purity of the heart on the reverse.

CHALLENGE



The children try to identify attitudes held by other children that are not Jesus Shaped.

For example: 'you are rubbish if you aren't good at football'; 'You can't play with us because you can't read properly.'

In what ways can they stand out against these attitudes and help the person who is being hurt by them?

LINK



Children want to ask the adults what are their attitudes about having children in church? Especially if they happen to be Noisy babies? Active toddlers? Talking teenagers?

Adults want to ask the children what are their attitudes about having adults in church? Especially if they are elderly and can't hear very well. What about the adults who stand tall so that children cannot see round them? This discussion is about exploring the need to change our attitudes. It is about asking 'What would Jesus think?'; 'What would Jesus do?'

SHAPED PEOPLE