

## KS1 & KS2 EDUCATION SUNDAY ASSEMBLY

### *BEING TOGETHER AND KNOWING WHO WE ARE.*

An act of collective worship for key stages 1 and 2.

#### **Resources:**

- Jigsaw puzzle (with piece missing: a puzzle with large pieces would work well for this).
- Paper and crayons or pens.

#### *INTRODUCTION (5+ MINUTES)*

Show a jigsaw puzzle with a piece missing (or picture with a piece cut out, or mosaic with tiles missing).

#### **Activity:**

- 1) Ask a volunteer to complete a puzzle (hide a piece visible to everyone except the volunteer)
- 2) Ask a volunteer to draw a picture of the seaside, but do not give them a blue colour
- 3) Ask a volunteer to draw a full-page portrait, but give them paper with a hole in the middle cut out

NB: these could be even more fun with 2+ volunteers competing

#### **Questions to think about:**

- Have you ever lost a piece to a jigsaw? Or not had the right colour for your picture? Or not been able to find the crucial Lego piece?
- How do you feel when you can't find it?
- How do you feel about the picture/project you are working on?
- Is it enough that the picture/project is nearly complete?

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## MAIN CONTENT (10 MINUTES)

### Story (from Exodus 16 – 20):

The Israelites were grumbling, so far they had followed their leader, Moses, wandering through the desert for 6 weeks, and now they were fed up!

Fed Up! Why? They should have been having the most marvellous time on a new adventure. You see the Israelites were finally free. For too long they had lived in captivity – they had been locked up and locked in, and now, finally, Moses had got them out – freedom to live life!

But it turns out that getting in to the ‘new normal’ isn’t as simple as you might think some of them found it quite different and difficult – and the Israelites grumbled. They grumbled at each other, they grumbled at Moses, and they grumbled at God.

It didn’t matter to them that God had given them freedom, that God had guided Moses every step of the way, that God was still daily providing all their food and drink and safety – the Israelites had caught a bad case of the grumbles and they weren’t changing their mood anytime soon.

The truth of it was that they had got a little bit lost, they knew where they were going – because God was leading their way – but they’d got a bit lost with each other. The Israelites just didn’t know how be themselves anymore.

One day God said to Moses: “Moses, it is time for the people to remember who they are. Join me on this mountain top, I have new instructions for you in your new lives”. So Moses went up the mountain to speak with God, and all the Israelites remained distanced from them, waiting to find out who they were and who they could be.

“Moses” said God, “I have rules for you and all the people. This is what they are:

- I am your God, and you are my people. Never forget that!
- Remember to work, and remember to rest
- Respect your parents, and respect your people
- Do not hurt people, do not steal, do not lie
- Be faithful.”

Moses came down the mountain and told the Israelites their new ‘commandments’. There were actually ten in total, and Moses explained in detail how they would all work.

When the Israelites heard the ten commandments, they celebrated because now they knew how to be together.

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If I'm honest, it wasn't the end of their grumbling – they still found life difficult, and sometimes different, but forever more they knew who they were, what they were about, where they were going, and who was by their side...

## Reflection:

Question: Does anyone have a favourite school rule? What makes that your favourite?

Ask the children to recall as many of their school values as they can, and list them (you may need to have researched beforehand).

Our rules and values are all about who we are as a people, just like the 10 commandments given to Moses were all about who the Israelites were as a people. They told them how to be together.

Ask the children to think of examples of things they can do to live out their school values in their Bubble (Eg: 'Team work' – make sure that anyone left out has a part to play).

Question: "I wonder, now that we've thought about our rules and values, are there any new rules or values you'd like to add to your school?"

After assembly, maybe you could have a chat with your teacher about what kind of a school, or what kind of a Bubble you would like to be, and what rules and values you would like to focus on.

## CONCLUSION (1MIN)

### Thoughts:

The story I told is from the book of Exodus, in the Bible. They were ten rules that God gave, but more than that, they were 10 ways of telling the world who the Israelites were and what they were about.

Although the events of the story happened 3500 years ago, the character of that community is still with us today. Do not harm people, do not cheat, do not steal: we still have those same rules!

Knowing how we can all be together, especially in changing times, is a powerful thing. I'm going to pray for our community. You can listen quietly to the words, and if you want to join in, please say "Amen" at the end.

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**Prayer:**

God: Good Father, and Guide,

Thank you that we are all together.

Together as a school, together as a Bubble, together as friends.

Help us to know who we are, and how to be together.

Thank you for our school rules and values.

We will try our very best to keep them, and help others to do the same.

So that we can each live our very best life, together.

Amen

*Michael Harrowing*

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