

# Abbey Academies Trust



## Our Christian Narrative

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|----------------|----------------|--|
| September 2021 | September 2023 |  |
| September 2022 | May 2024       |  |

**‘Striving for excellence whilst caring for all within a loving and caring Christian environment.’**

## **Our Academy Vision**

We are a community in which everyone is offered the opportunity to fulfil their full potential, to understand themselves and be valued for who they are. Through a stimulating and challenging learning environment, we pursue academic excellence and seek the flourishing of all. This is because we know we are all God's children.

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you ever can.”

**John Wesley**

Our mission statement:

**‘Striving for excellence whilst caring for all within a loving and caring Christian environment.’**

*‘Keep your roots deep in Jesus Christ the Lord and have your lives built on him. Be strong in the faith, just as you were taught. And always be thankful.’ Colossians 2:7*

As a RRS (Rights Respecting School – UNICEF) this policy upholds the following articles from the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child):

- Article 2: Everyone has equal rights whatever their race, religion, ability, whatever they think or say or whatever their family.
- Article 8: Every child has the right to an identity.
- Article 14: Every child has the right to follow their own religion.
- Article 28: Every child has the right to an education
- Article 29: Every child has the right to be the best they can.

*'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.'* Deuteronomy 31:6

Our Trust vision drives all that we do at our Church schools and our values are theologically grounded with clear links to the Christian narrative through Bible quotes and stories.

*"Be imitators of God, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us."* Ephesians 5:1-2

We believe the Christian Values that we have chosen strongly represent our Academy Trust. We encourage our pupils to reflect on and articulate our values to each other, to their parents, to staff and to visitors. The Bible has so much to offer us in terms of positive personal, relational and community values, and its timeless wisdom can help us pass on to the next generation the qualities of life that are most valuable and which, as Christians, we believe are not only God-given but also can be God-energised in our lives. We develop our values through modelling it to one another; looking at Christian scripture and stories in Collective Worship. Through whole school worship, class worship, relationships and discussions, we use bible stories to provide examples of our values and also explicitly give examples of how our pupils can show and recognise these values within our schools.



Our chosen Christian Values are:

### **Creation and Creativity**

The Bible opens with an account of how God created the Universe and all the things within it. Although Christians have different views on scientific accounts on the creation of the universe, all hold God as the creator. We believe we are made in the image of God and because He is creative, it follows that so are we. If God does something, and models it for us to do, we believe we should strive to do the same and to have the same impact. The Bible tells us we have been handed the responsibility for looking after this planet – something that most would agree that we could do a better job at. Obvious links throughout the curriculum can be made to current environmental issues and the importance of our role as stewards of the planet. Through our values and Eco initiatives in particular, we encourage our pupils to be Agents of Change and to make a difference in the local community and beyond by following God's example and striving to fulfil His expectations.

Focus Bible Story: The story of Creation (Genesis 1:1-31)

Memory verses:

- "I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth." Genesis 9-13
- "For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything." Hebrews 3:4

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" Ephesians 2:10
- "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14
- "Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command." Hebrews 11:1-3
- "When God created human beings, He made them to be like himself." Genesis 6:1
- "What is mankind that you are mindful of them human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honour. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet." Psalm 8:4-6
- "For nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1:37



## Friendship and Fellowship

The Bible is full of examples of friendship and this is why friendship is such an important Christian Value for our Trust. Jesus gave us a definition of love and friendship in John 15:13 - to lay down one's life for one's friend. As children we spend more time with our friends than with our family, we celebrate with our friends, we eat and drink with friends, we take holidays with friends and we are there when a friend is in need. Jesus didn't just talk about friendship, he acted it out throughout his life. Jesus was the friend of sinners and he showed them mercy, sympathy, forgiveness, love and charity – he modelled what it is to be a good friend. He is our model for friendship because he loved and was a friend without limits. We use Jesus' model of friendship to teach, encourage and inspire our pupils to be the best friend they could possibly be to others. Across the Trust we have a Friendship Week rather than Anti-Bullying Week in Term 2 every year but the importance of friendship as a Christian Value is woven throughout the time our pupils are with us from Reception to Year 6.

Focus Bible Story: Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1-4)

Memory verses:

- "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13
- "Sweet friendships refresh the soul and awaken our hearts with joy, for good friends are like the anointing oil that yields the fragrant incense of God's presence." Proverbs 27:9

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- God and Abraham - 2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23
- "A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17
- "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." John 15:15 (Jesus talking to his disciples)
- "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. Psalm 25:14-15
- "One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24
- "One who forgives an offence fosters friendship, but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend." Proverbs 17:9
- "Anyone who withholds kindness from a friend forsakes the fear of the Almighty." Job 16:14



## **Perseverance**

We chose perseverance as a Christian Value because we strive for our children to have self-belief and to aspire to reach their potential in all areas of life. We recognise that a culture of perseverance is essential throughout their school journey. There are lots of verses in the Bible that encourage Christians to persevere and these pieces of scripture help to motivate us all. Jesus frequently encouraged his disciples to “endure patiently” the difficulties and obstacles they encountered and to persevere in the face of adversity. We believe it is necessary to teach our pupils that things that are often worthwhile in life cannot be achieved without perseverance, that life is sometimes difficult and that it is important not to give up in the face of adversity. We regularly praise our pupils for their perseverance in our weekly ‘Golden Book’ Collective Worship in front of their peers and parents / guardians.

Focus Bible Story: The Parable of the Lost sheep (Matthew 18:12-14)

Memory verses:

- “Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” 1 Corinthians 13:7
- “Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” Hebrews 12:1

Additional Bible stories and verses

- The Parable of the Persistent Widow - Luke 18
- The Parable of the Talents - Matthew 25:14 / Luke 19:11
- Noah’s Ark – a flood and a rainbow – Genesis 6-9
- “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13
- When talking about the end times, Jesus says, “Stand firm, and you will win life.” Luke 21:1
- “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9
- ‘Keep your mind on Jesus... Then you won’t get discouraged and give up.’ Hebrews 12:3
- “Let us run with perseverance the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end.” Hebrews 12:1-2



## **Forgiveness**

We appreciate that forgiveness is fundamental to the character of God. Throughout the Bible, God is described as slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin. Jesus also teaches forgiveness. Forgiveness was at the heart of everything he did and is at the heart of the Lord's Prayer. We inspire our pupils to forgive others and themselves knowing that forgiveness cannot be given or received unless it is asked for, and this must come from the heart. We ensure that our pupils understand that forgiveness can be difficult because of the hurt involved but Christians believe that they have the ability to forgive others not because they're good people or because they want to do the right thing, but because God has given us the capacity to forgive because He forgave us first. We teach our pupils that the value of forgiveness is that it allows us to be more like Christ and when we forgive we are able to move forward and have a fresh start.

Focus Bible Story: The story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Memory verses:

- “Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” Colossians 3:13
- “But if we confess our sins to God, he can be trusted to forgive us our sins.” 1 John 1:9

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:9-13
- The Parable of the Prodigal Son - Luke 15:11-32
- The Parable of the Lost Coin – Luke 15:8-10
- The Parable of the Lost Sheep – Luke 15:3-7
- “And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving each other, just as God also in Christ forgave you.” Ephesians 4:32
- Jesus demonstrated true forgiveness by forgiving the thief on the cross (who could offer Jesus nothing in return) and also forgiving those that had crucified him. Luke 23:39-43
- “Forgive our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.” John 21:15-17
- “For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” Matthew 6:14-15



## Trust

Trust is at the heart of all positive relationships. We teach our pupils that in life trust has to be earned and that trust is key to living together in harmony and so it is to be valued and honoured. The Bible tells Christians that God is trustworthy because of His nature and that they should have confidence in Him. The Bible strongly advises us all to trust in God and to have faith in His grace, protection, and salvation. There are 39 references to trust in the David's Psalms alone and there are an endless number of Bible stories that we can draw on as a model for trusting God and others. When we talk about trust we also talk about faith. We understand that they are two different concepts but at the same time they compliment each other. Christians have faith in God because He is trustworthy.

Focus Bible Story: Daniel in the Lion's Den (Daniel 6)

Memory verses:

- "Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock." Isaiah 26:3-4 NIV
- "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped." Psalm 28:7

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The Stilling of the Storm - Matthew 8:23–27
- The Story of the Fiery Furnace – Daniel 3:8-25
- The Story of Noah's Ark – Genesis 7
- "You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you." Isaiah 26:3
- "But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation." Psalm 13:5
- "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid." Psalm 56:3-4-
- "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act." Psalm 37:5
- "But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." Psalm 31:14
- "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you." Psalm 56:3
- "Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness." Psalm 37:3
- "Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us." Psalm 62:8





## Thankfulness

The word 'thankfulness' is not a common word in the Bible but the Bible does tell us that God loves and cares for us in many different ways in all aspects of our lives. We encourage our pupils to respond to this gift with thankfulness and praise. Songs of thankfulness and praise are at the heart of Christian worship. We use worship songs, bible stories, Christian Festivals such as Harvest, prayers throughout the day (e.g. lunchtime, home time) and current affairs to help the children realise and understand the importance of saying and most importantly feeling thankful. Our Key Stage 2 pupils regularly go to church for the Eucharist or 'thanksgiving'.

"God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say thank you?" (Anon)

Focus Bible Story: The Man Who came Back (Luke 17:11-19)

Memory verses:

- "I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1
- "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; His love endures forever." Psalm 107

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The story of the feeding of the 5000 – John 6:1-14
- The Parable of the Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10) <https://youtu.be/6L92cqnNDSA>
- The story of Jesus and the lepers – Luke 17:11-19
- "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." Colossians 4:2
- "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30
- "The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him." Psalm 28:7
- "Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2
- "Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless His name!" Psalm 100:4
- "Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you." 1 Samuel 12:14



## **Respect and Reverence**

Respect is a core Christian value for our church schools because we believe that all life is precious, within the image of God, and deserves to be valued. Within the school we encourage all, “to treat others as you would want them to treat you.” (Matthew 7:12) Respect is one of the most foundational and important lessons we can teach our pupils about interacting with other people. From respecting elders to respecting people with different backgrounds to respecting other children’s wishes, the need for respect is everywhere. In our schools, our pupils learn that God made us all different and unique. This is something that we can celebrate together. We learn to value ourselves, each other and the wider community through honesty, tolerance and trust, where everyone has an equal right to our care, time and attention as a reflection of God’s love. Throughout his life, Jesus showed respect for the disciples, children, the poor, the sick and the distressed and through our British Values work and our 3Rs we are able to model and promote respect in our schools and in the wider community.

Our 3Rs are:

Respect and take care of ourselves.

Respect and take care of others.

Respect and take care of our environment and the world in which we live.

Focus Bible Story: The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)

Memory verses:

- “So, in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” Matthew 7:12 (NIV)
- “And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind.” Titus 2:7 (NLT)

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The parable of the Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37
- The story of Jesus at the Temple (Matthew 21:12-16)
- The story of the writing on the wall – Daniel 5
- After Jesus had washed his disciples’ feet, he challenged them to wash one another’s feet i.e. serve one another. - John 13:1-20:
- After sharing the parable of the wedding banquet, Jesus commanded his followers to give to all whatever they were owed. - Matthew 22:15-22
- Paul urges children to respect their parents - Ephesians 6:1-4
- Nehemiah speaks to the King – Nehemiah 2:1-8
- Respecting people in authority - Romans 13:1-7



## Peace

Jesus said “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9) Peace making actions can range from helping to resolve conflict to creating space for stillness. Peace, in the sense of total well-being, is God’s intention for the whole of creation. Throughout our church schools our pupils have access to Reflection Areas where they can sit, be still and talk to God. Pupils are encouraged to use these areas for not only reflection but to share with God the positive things that are happening in their lives. We believe that there are five types of peace that our pupils need to learn about through listening, discussion, exploring and modelling:

- Peace with God
- Inner peace
- Peace between each other
- Peace in the community
- Peace in the world

We have Peer Mediators in our playgrounds to ensure playtimes and lunchtimes are as harmonious as they can be. The Peer Mediators are trained to help pupils work through conflict and to encourage them to express their feelings in an appropriate way.

We encourage our pupils to understand that finding and making peace is hard work and once it is found, it needs to be cherished. Our pupils are encouraged to see that there is a time for peace and a time to unwind at home, in school and in the community.

Focus Bible Story: The Stilling of the Storm (Matthew 8:23-27)

Memory verses:

- “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” John 14:27
- “The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace.” Psalm 29: 11

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The story of St Francis of Assisi.
- The story of Jesus promising his disciples they will have peace after the crucifixion – John 14:27
- The stories of the Nobel Peace Prize winners e.g. Malala Yousafzai, Barack Obama, Jody Williams, 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama, Kofi Annan to name but a few.
- "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33
- “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” 2 Thessalonians 3:16
- “You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3
- “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18
- “Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.” Hebrews 12:14

- I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.” Psalm 4:8
- “For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.” Psalm 4:8



## Courage

God promises to give us the strength and courage we need to face difficult or challenging situations. Courage and perseverance go hand in hand. Courage guides us and our actions. We encourage our pupils to find the courage to use their voice, to ask big questions, to stand their ground and to try things that are out of their usual comfort zone. The word courage comes from the French word for heart. Take heart is another way of saying be courageous. We teach our pupils that being courageous doesn't mean that you aren't scared. We look to the Bible and to history for stories of courageous people who have been scared, but they stood up for what was right anyway. In the book of Joshua, it says 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go'. Jesus often says to people 'don't be afraid'. That sentence turns up 365 times in the Bible! We teach our pupils that Christians believe that when things seem difficult and hard that they can rely on God to strengthen their courage.

Focus Bible Story: David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17)

Memory verses:

- "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." Corinthians 16:13
- "Be strong and of good courage. The LORD will not leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The story of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments - Exodus 20:1-17
- The Journey of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12)
- The story of Samson saving a whole nation – Judges 13.5
- "I am the Lord your God. I am holding your hand, so don't be afraid." Isaiah 41:13
- David sings: "Trust the Lord. Be brave and strong and trust the Lord." Psalm 27:14
- Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Ephesians 6:10
- "Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated." Isaiah 54:4
- "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27
- "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise - in God, I trust and am not afraid." Psalm 56:3-4
- "Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD." Psalm 31:24



## Compassion

Throughout the Trust, we develop our value of Compassion through modelling it to one another and understanding that it is a call to action. We show compassion locally through supporting local Foodbanks and other local charities. Nationally and internationally we have supported charities such as Children in Need, Sport Relief and then beyond our shores we are partnered with the charity 'Friends of Nyansakia'. Nyansakia is a village in Kisii in the central district in West Kenya and we have been able to make a positive difference through our fundraising efforts over many years.

Christians believe the Bible teaches that God is a God of compassion and that God feels the suffering of His people. God's compassion is expressed in His mercy, kindness, patience, grace, forgiveness and love. Many Christians believe they are called by God to be compassionate people. In essence, compassion is a feeling of sympathy, empathy and a need to take action to relieve the suffering of those close to us and further afield. We encourage our pupils to be compassionate and conscientious 'Agents of Change' at home, in school and in the local community. We want them to be inspired to act for something they feel compelled to change.

Focus Bible Story: The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-27)

Memory verses:

- "Clothe yourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12
- "The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love." Psalm 145:8

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The story of Joseph forgiving his brothers - Genesis 45:9–11, 14–15
- The Parable of The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37
- God is "a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness" (Psalm 86:15).
- "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32
- "Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23
- "Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble." 1 Peter 3:8
- "As a father has compassion on His children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him." Psalm 103:13
- "Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore, he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice." Isaiah 30:18
- "My unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you." Isaiah 54:10



## Hope

Christian hope is rooted in God's love for us. Christians believe that:

- God has our best interests at heart;
- God will never leave us;
- God will provide for us when we are in need;
- God knows us (even the number of hairs on our head!)
- God promises us of a better life to come.
- When we are in our darkest time, God is there, and will help us.
- Hope is grounded in the character of God.

We have high hopes and aspirations for our pupils future, our school and our community. We also understand that faith gives us hope for both now and for the future, and that this hope brings confidence. Hope for us means that there is always a future whatever situation we are in, because God promised to never leave us, to always love us, and to help us in times of need. We see hope shown in the Christian narrative in many ways:

- The resurrection gives us hope for eternal life.
- The gospel stories tell of hope, for example the woman who touched Jesus' robe ("If I just touch his clothes I will be healed.").
- The rainbow after the flood is a sign that God will never break His covenant of love with us.
- God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, when slavery seemed their destiny.
- The lost coin and the lost sheep tell us of the lengths God will go to bring us back.

We develop our value of hope through: never giving up on our pupils; wanting the best for them academically and in their character; helping them see light despite the darkness; investing in our Health and Wellbeing teams and learning about the importance of prayer.

Focus Bible Story: The story of Noah's Ark (Genesis 6:9-9:17)

Memory verses:

- "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11
- "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him." Romans 15:13

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The Birth of Jesus – Luke 2:1-20
- The Story of Simeon – Luke 2:22-25
- The Parable of the Mustard Seed – Mark 4:30-32
- "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13)
- "Hope does not disappoint us, because God poured out His love into our hearts by His Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to us." Romans 5:5

- “So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13
- “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.” Psalm 119:114
- “But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.” Romans 8:25
- “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him.” Lamentations 3:24
- “I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word, I hope.” Psalm 130:5
- “Know that wisdom is such to your soul; if you find it, there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off.” Proverbs 24:14





## Humility

Humility is a core Christian value. It is key to how Christians relate to each other. The Bible tells us Jesus taught his disciples what it means to be truly humble by demonstrating and valuing humility. Christians believe that they can serve God by demonstrating humility through their attitudes and actions. This is in contrast to the world we live in where some people say: "look at me, look at me", chasing after fame and recognition and wanting to be noticed. Yet the real 'heroes' are usually the everyday people who care and think of others without a fuss and a need for attention. We teach our pupils that being humble means having a realistic picture of ourselves and to be mindful of the times we do amazing things as well as the times we don't succeed; it is about trying to think about others before you think about yourself and about being humble enough to ask and accept another person's help. We are careful to ensure that our pupils know it is acceptable to celebrate an 'Agent of Change' accomplishment or their own personal achievements, for example in our weekly 'Golden Book' Collective Worships.

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less," C.S. Lewis

Focus Bible Story: The Roman Centurion (Matthew 8:5-13)

Memory verses:

- "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." James 4:10
- "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." Proverbs 11:2

Additional Bible stories and verses:

- The story of Daniel in the lion's den – Daniel 6
- The story of David and Goliath (1Samuel 17)
- The story of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples – John 13:1-5
- "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12
- "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6
- "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Ephesians 4:2
- "Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honour." Proverbs 18:12
- "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time." 1 Peter 5:6
- "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 14:11