

Beatitudes – Those Who Mourn (The widow of Nain’s Son)

Theme: God blesses you when you have lost something or someone very special. God will comfort you. (Matthew 5v4)

Game: Down and Up: Choose one child to be the chaser and another to be the saver. Children run round until tagged by the chaser who shouts “down” and they crouch down on the spot. They can only move when tagged by the saver who shouts “up”.

Game: Heads down thumbs up! Children sit with their heads down, eyes closed and thumbs up in the air. Two “tweakers” are chosen who each tweak one thumb of a child in the group. They then creep to the front of the room. The children open their eyes and the ones whose thumbs were tweaked go and stand behind the person they think tweaked them. If they are right they become the tweakers, if not they sit down and the tweakers have another go.

Introduction: Wink wink resurrection: Children sit in a circle. A detective is chosen who has to leave the room. The life-giver is chosen who has to wink at a child to save them. Once a child has been winked at, they leap up and shout “I’m alive!” The detective returns, stands in the centre of the circle watching and has three guesses as to who the life-saver is.

Story: The widow of Nain’s son – Luke 7 verses 11-17
Get the children to act out the scene with everybody saying “God has come to save His people!” at the end.

Memory verse: “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.” Revelation 7 verse 17b Divide children into two teams. Have 2 washing baskets filled with squares of material which each have a word of the memory verse on. The children peg the squares onto their washing lines and the winners are the ones who are first to put it in the correct order. Take a few squares away and see if they can still remember the verse.

Application: How do we feel when someone we love is sick or dies? Yes, we feel very sad. Who can remember the memory verse for today? (Child says it.) God is promising that He will not only comfort us while we are on Earth but also when we get to Heaven. What do you think Heaven is like? The Bible tells us that in Heaven there will be no more sickness or death and therefore no sadness. On Earth although people don’t always get better or live on when we pray for them God has promised Eternal Life with Him in Heaven and what could be better than that?

Prayer: Draw a picture of a bed with a cover on a large piece of card. Give each child a plaster on which they should write the name of someone who is ill or who has died. Ask them to stick the plasters on the bed and pray: Thank you God that you can heal the sick and have given us Eternal Life. Amen.

Song: “Great Big God” Great Big God CD track 1

Resources: Funsheet