



# Values for LifeSavers

A Collective Worship Resource for Primary Schools:

Justice

## Values for LifeSavers

### Collective worship materials for primary schools



# Values for LifeSavers

Welcome to Values for LifeSavers, a set of collective worship materials for primary schools. We hope that you and your children will enjoy using the material which is designed to complement the LifeSavers Five Big Questions About Money, classroom resources.

### How to use this resource...

Both the Five Big Questions About Money and Values for LifeSavers are based upon the same four core values: Wisdom, Generosity, Justice and Thankfulness. Within each value, a number of principles have been identified and these are at the heart of all the materials with which you will be working.

There are five acts of collective worship or assembly plans for each core value. The structure is always the same and follows the pattern below:



Whilst each act of collective worship offers new material, there is also an element of repetition, in order that children and staff may become familiar and comfortable with certain patterns of worship.

Brief **background notes** for leaders highlight the key learning focus for each act of collective worship and ensure that the underlying teaching is clear.

Each act of collective worship begins with a **Greeting**. We provide two options: one that will suit the context of a church school whilst the other may be more appropriate for community schools.

For the **Learning** section, schools are given a choice of material to use. They may select the drama sketch which can either be acted out with puppets\* or by the children themselves, or the Bible stories which are retold by Bob Hartman. The characters Barney, Bella and Bob in the dramas are already well known to those schools using the Roots and Fruits worship material published by Imaginor\*\*. Bob Hartman's work is internationally acclaimed and very familiar in many schools. Both options provide a lively and often humorous way of interpreting the theme.

The **Reflecting** section gives children an opportunity to respond to the drama sketch or story, with open questions to encourage them to relate these to their own lives. In some situations, it may be appropriate for children to reflect on these questions with each other in pairs; we have identified suitable opportunities with a **Talk Partners** logo: .

The **Responding** and **Sending** sections bring the act of collective worship to a close with a prayer and blessing. Alternatively, leaders can use the **'Thought for the Day'** which may be more suitable for community schools.

Schools are best placed to decide how and when to use these 20 acts of collective worship. They are suitable for a variety of groupings including whole school, Key Stage or individual class worship. Some schools will choose to use one a week over a period of time, whilst others may use them in a 'block'. They could function as a 'launch' for exploring one of the five Big Questions or as a way of drawing together the teaching at the end of a particular unit of work.

Church schools are required to provide a distinctively Christian daily act of worship, whilst, in community schools, worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. We believe that these acts of worship can be used to fulfil both of these requirements. Above all, we hope that these materials will help you to provide enjoyable and meaningful acts of collective worship for all your pupils.

**Shahne Vickery and Neville Norcross**

\*The puppets are produced by The Puppet Company who sell via PuppetsbyPost: [www.puppetsbypost.com](http://www.puppetsbypost.com)

\*\*The characters Barney, Bella and Bob were created by Imaginor Ltd and feature in drama scripts in the worship resource Roots and Fruits ISBN 978-0-9573429-5-8 Copyright Imaginor Ltd 2014.



## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice I: Fair and honest dealings with money

## Justice

# 1

## Fair and honest dealings with money

### Worship Table

- Bible open at Isaiah 1.17 – Learn to do good. Seek justice.
- A cross and a candle.
- A pan balance (scales).

### Leader's Background Notes

The focus here is on being fair and honest in our dealings with money – not seeking to take advantage of others or to deliberately mislead or exploit them.



## Welcome



### Light the candle

#### Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at Isaiah 1.17 - Learn to do good. Seek justice.

We also have a pan balance/scales.

#### Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Justice**.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 1: Fair and honest dealings with money

## Learning



### Puppet Drama

#### Introduction:

Scales are often used as a sign of justice. **Refer to the balance. You may want to show a picture on the screen of the statue of justice with her scales above the Old Bailey in London.**

These words from the Bible (**Put the quote on the screen**) are saying that we need to learn to do good and seek justice. The right thing to do is not always clear straight away. We are always learning and sometimes we might disagree.

Barney and Bella have very different ideas about what is just and unjust. I wonder what you will think?

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



(Barney is absorbed, listening to his music through headphones).

**Bella:** Hi, Barney.

(No response from Barney so Bella taps him on the shoulder and looks him in the face and speaks louder)

**Bella:** I said, 'Hello, Barney'.

**Barney:** Oh Hi, Bella.

**Bella:** You got the new headphones then?

**Barney:** Well, I ended up getting two pairs actually!

**Bella:** How was that?

**Barney:** I got so fed up of waiting for Christmas to come that I spent some of my savings on these. They cost £15. Then, my Auntie went and got me some for Christmas! They are exactly the same!

**Bella:** Well you won't need two pairs.

(Bob arrives)

**Bob:** Hi you two. Did you get those headphones for Christmas then Barney?

**Barney:** Yup.

**Bob:** Wish I'd had some. I did put them on my Christmas list but it didn't work.

(Barney has a thought!)

**Barney:** I bought these ones myself actually, but I've got another pair now so I could sell you these.

(Bob initially looks thrilled but then crestfallen).

**Bob:** I could never afford them. How much would you charge?

**Barney:** They would cost you £20. How much pocket money do you get?

(Bella looks surprised and confused).

**Bob:** £2 a week.

**Barney:** OK You could pay me £2 a week for ten weeks.

(Bob looks unsure.)

**Bob:** I'll need to think about it. But thanks Barney. I'd never be able to afford £20 in one go.

(Bob leaves thoughtfully)

Bella (outraged) Barney I can't believe what has just happened!!!

**Barney:** What do you mean?

**Bella:** It's so unjust! You only paid £15 for those headphones and now you're charging Bob £5 more than you paid AND you've used them AND you've got another pair!!

**Barney:** Hang on Bella, it's not unjust at all. I'm actually doing Bob a favour. It's a really good deal. You heard him yourself. He wouldn't be able to afford headphones at all if I didn't let him pay weekly.

(Barney puts the headphones on again and walks off, leaving Bella looking furious).

### Reflecting



☞ Sometimes an action may not be illegal but it is certainly not fair. Christians can decide what is right by asking if God would be happy with their actions.

- Barney thinks he is offering Bob a good deal. What do you think? Discuss with your talk partner.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice I: Fair and honest dealings with money

## Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Luke 19. 1-10)



### Introduction:

Why do people feel so angry when they know someone is cheating?

In today's story, Jesus is determined to meet with someone who is known for his dishonesty. The outcome of the story is a surprise for everyone.



Jesus was coming to Jericho.

And a great crowd assembled to greet him.

Everyone, from the richest to the poorest, had a question they wanted to ask the famous teacher – 'Jesus will you visit my house?' The answer would result in great honour to the person who received a 'yes'.

There was one person in that crowd, however, who had no expectations of a 'yes'. And that was Zacchaeus, the tax collector.

And why should he? He collected taxes for the Romans, who had conquered that land, and often treated its people harshly. And what's more, when he had collected what the Romans were owed, he had no problem collecting even more - as much as he could bully out of people, in fact - to fill his own pockets. He was a cheat. And everyone knew it. And everyone hated him for it.

He was still interested in seeing Jesus, though. So he sneaked behind the crowd, and climbed up a sycamore tree, and, hidden in its branches, waited for the famous teacher to arrive.

When Jesus finally appeared, the invitations came fast and furious.

'Stay with me, Jesus!'

'No, come to my house!'

'My wife makes the best stew in town!'

Jesus smiled and nodded and politely declined each one of them. Then he looked up into the sycamore tree and said, matter-of-factly, 'Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry! I need to stay at your house, today.'

Zacchaeus was surprised. But the crowd was shocked. And when the two of them had disappeared into Zacchaeus's house, the crowd grumbled and moaned, 'Why has Jesus chosen the tax collector? He does all kinds of things that are wrong!'

Jesus knew why. For when they had finished talking, Zacchaeus had a change of heart.

'I'm giving half of all my money to the poor,' he said. 'And if I have cheated anyone, I will repay what I have stolen, four times over.'

And that's why Jesus was pleased. And that's why Jesus said, 'A great and beautiful change has come to this house, today. This man is truly, now, one of God's own people!'

## Reflecting



- Why was the man in this story, Zacchaeus, described as a bully and a cheat at the beginning of the story?
- Have you ever seen someone being bullied or cheated by someone who was bigger and stronger than them?
- How do you treat those who are smaller and weaker than you?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice I: Fair and honest dealings with money

#### Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Help us learn to do good and seek justice.'

**Leader:** When we face difficult choices about how to act,

**All:** Help us learn to do good and seek justice.

**Leader:** When we face difficult choices about what to say,

**All:** Help us learn to do good and seek justice.

**Leader:** When we face difficult choices about money,

**All:** Help us learn to do good and seek justice.

Amen.

#### Sending



We know that by ourselves, we will sometimes struggle to do the right thing, so,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

#### Thought for the Day...

**'I have found no greater satisfaction than achieving success through honest dealing – for you to gain, those you deal with should gain as well.'**

*(Alan Greenspan, banker, 1926-)*

**Background:** Alan Greenspan is an American economist who served as head of the US central banking system from 1987 to 2006. In 2005, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his services to the nation, the highest civilian award in the United States.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 2: Fair shares for all

## Justice

# 2

## Fair shares for all

### Worship Table

- Bible open at Hebrews 13.16 - Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
- A cross and a candle.
- A pizza box.

### Leader's Background Notes

Christians believe that God is unhappy when some people have more than enough, whilst others have very little and that one element of justice is about sharing what we have more fairly. Recent figures from Oxfam show that the richest 62 people in the world own as much as the poorest 3.5 billion - half of the world's population.



## Welcome



### Light the candle

#### Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at Hebrews 13:16 - Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

We also have a pizza box.

#### Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Justice**.

# Values for LifeSavers

## Justice 2: Fair shares for all

### Learning



#### Puppet Drama

##### Introduction:

Put today's Bible reading on the screen and ask everyone to read it together.

Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

##### Hebrews 13:16

Can anyone say what the word sacrifice means?

🗣️ I wonder why this Bible text speaks of sharing with others as being a sacrifice? Discuss this with your talk partner.

Bella is about to discover what it means to share fairly.

##### Props:

A pizza box.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Barney and Bob are becoming impatient as they wait for Bella to return from the pizza shop).

**Barney:** I wish Bella would get a move on, I'm starving!

**Bob:** Maybe there's a long queue.

**Barney:** Hope she can get ham and pineapple. Sometimes they run out of them.

**Bob:** I know, ham and pineapple must be everyone's favourite!

(Bella returns carrying a pizza box).

**Bella:** Phew, it was so busy. I think half our school was in that shop buying pizza!

**Barney:** I expect everyone is celebrating the end of term, like us!

**Bella:** (opens the box) They let me borrow a pizza cutter in the shop so I've sliced it up into three bits already.

(Bob and Barney look into the box).

**Barney:** Those pieces are nowhere near equal in size, Bella! One is definitely bigger than the other two.

**Bella:** (looking sheepish) Well I did go and collect it, so I thought I deserved a bigger bit.

**Barney:** You volunteered to go.

**Bob:** And we're both just as hungry as you, so I think we should all get the same sized slice.

**Barney:** In my house, one person divides things up and the other one gets to choose first which bit they want.

**Bella:** OK, OK, I'm sorry. You can try and even up the pieces, Bob.

**Bob:** Right then, let's go and find a pizza cutter.

### Reflecting



- Can you think of a time when you thought you were treated unfairly? How did you feel?
- Some people in the world have more than enough food whilst others struggle to find enough to eat. How can we help to make things fairer in the world?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 2: Fair shares for all

## Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Acts 4. 32-37)



### Introduction:

We all know how important it is to share fairly. Many of the early followers of Jesus were very poor because they had given up their jobs to follow him. This story helps us to understand how they managed to survive.



After Jesus died, and rose from the dead, and went to heaven, his followers told people what had happened to him.

Lots of people believed them, and wanted to be followers of Jesus, too. And most of those people lived in Jerusalem.

So they did lots of things, together.

They listened together **(Have everyone put a hand to an ear, as if listening)**, and heard all about the things that Jesus had taught.

They spent time together and got to know one another.

They ate together - particularly the special "goodbye meal" of bread and wine that Jesus had told his friends to keep. And they often saw amazing things happen, as a result.

But that's not all they did.

For, in addition to listening and spending time together and eating and praying, they also shared what they owned with each other. **(Have everyone reach a hand in a pocket and share a pretend coin with someone nearby)**.

You see, some of those early followers of Jesus had lots of money. And others had very little. But because they were followers of Jesus, together, they believed

that what was owned by one person belonged to everyone else.

So if one follower of Jesus needed something, and another follower of Jesus had something they could sell, then that's exactly what they did! They sold that something and used what money they received to help the person in need. **(Repeat sharing motion)**.

There was, for example, a man named Joseph. He was a teacher, and was from the island of Cyprus.

When he heard that other followers of Jesus were in need, he sold a piece of land that he owned, and gave it to the apostles - the men who led the followers of Jesus - and they gave it out to people who needed help. **(Repeat sharing motion)**.

Land was very valuable in those times, just like it is today but, as far as Joseph was concerned, whatever belonged to him was there to be used by all the followers of Jesus, and to make a difference to those who were poor and struggling. Perhaps that is one of the reasons why the apostles called him by the nickname, Barnabas, which means 'someone who encourages others.'

And so, more and more people came to follow Jesus, and became a part of the group who:

Listened together

Spent time together

Ate together

Prayed together

And shared what they had together **(Repeat motion)**, so everyone's needs were met.

## Reflecting



**In this story, the followers of Jesus shared everything they had – their friendship, their time, their food and their money.**

- Can you think of something that you have a lot of?
- Is there someone you could share it with? Tell your talk partner.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 2: Fair shares for all

#### Responding



Sharing can sometimes be difficult for lots of reasons. Let's join together in this prayer and ask God to help us.

After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Lord, help us to share fairly.'

**Leader:** When we are tempted to take more than we should,

**All:** Lord, help us to share fairly.

**Leader:** When there are disagreements about who should get what,

**All:** Lord, help us to share fairly.

**Leader:** When have the chance to make a difference to the lives of others,

**All:** Lord, help us to share fairly.

Amen.

#### Sending



As we remember that God is pleased when we do good and share with others,  
May God the Father encourage us,  
God the Son befriend us,  
And God the Holy Spirit support us.  
Amen.

#### Thought for the Day...

**'The world has enough for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed.'**

*(Mahatma Gandhi, political and spiritual leader, 1869-1948)*

**Background:** Mahatma Gandhi led India to independence from Britain and inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. He worked with Indian farm workers and labourers to protest against unfair taxes and discrimination by the British, which were impoverishing the Indian population. Gandhi was imprisoned for many years, but attempted to practise non-violence in all situations, encouraging others to do the same.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 3: No favouritism

## Justice

# 3

## No favouritism

### Worship Table

- Bible open at James 2. 1-4 – My dear friends, don't let public opinion influence how you live out our glorious, Christ-originated faith. If a man enters your church wearing an expensive suit, and a street person wearing rags comes in right after him, and you say to the man in the suit, 'Sit here, sir; this is the best seat in the house!' and either ignore the street person or say, 'Better sit here in the back row,' haven't you segregated God's children and proved that you are judges who can't be trusted?.
- A cross and a candle.
- A model of an expensive car.

### Leader's Background Notes

The Bible teaches that everyone is equal in God's sight and so deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of how rich, clever or good looking they are. It is rooted in the teaching of Jesus - Love your neighbour as yourself.



## Welcome



### Light the candle

#### Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit. The Bible is open at James 2.1-4.

We also have a model car.

#### Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Justice**.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 3: No favouritism

## Learning



### Puppet Drama

#### Introduction:

Listen to this story which is based on a passage from the letter of James in the Bible.

**The story could be improvised or told through mime or dance.**

Jack is holding a meeting in his house. He is quite proud of his house and has been vacuuming and dusting all day to get everything ready. When the first person comes, they arrive in a big, brand-new car. They are dressed in expensive clothes and clearly have lots of money. Jack welcomes this person very enthusiastically, offering them a drink, inviting them to sit in the largest and most comfy seat in the sitting room.

Not long afterwards, a second person arrives. They have come a long way on foot. They are wet because it is raining and their clothes are old and rather shabby. Jack is not so pleased to see this person. He does not offer them a drink, he doesn't even bother to invite them to sit down. In fact, he actually tries his best to ignore them! Looking sad and disappointed, the second guest finds a corner of the room in which he sits to wait patiently for the meeting to begin.

Why do you think Jack tried to ignore his second visitor?

Which words would you use to describe Jack's character? **Accept the children's suggestions.**

The story in the Bible from letter of James was used to teach that it is wrong to show favouritism. Instead, we should treat everyone with the same dignity and respect because everyone is special to God.

Barney is about to discover that not everybody acts in this way.

#### Props:

Mini tablet computer.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



**Bob:** There's Barney! Looks as if he's all by himself.

**Bella:** That's unusual, he has been with Ricky most of the holiday. I've hardly seen him.

**Bob:** (calls over to Barney) Hi, Barney, everything OK?

**Barney:** (sadly) Ehh.....yeah, s'pose so.

**Bella:** You don't sound very sure about that.

**Bob:** Where's Ricky? You two have been playing football together just about every day.

**Barney:** He doesn't want to play football with me anymore.

**Bella:** Why's that?

**Barney:** He wants to play with Ryan on his tablet. It's brand new and he's got some brilliant games. He says he doesn't want to be friends with me anymore.

**Bella:** That's dreadful!

**Bob:** My Gran would call Ricky a 'fair weather friend'.

**Bella:** Being your friend shouldn't depend on the fancy things you've got.

**Barney:** I know that, but it obviously matters to Ricky.

(Bob and Bella look at each other)

**Bella:** But not to us Barney. We're off down the park, want to come?

## Reflecting



What do you think of 'fair-weather friends'? Take a quiet moment to reflect and then talk with your partner.

Think about your own behaviour.

- Have you ever treated someone differently because of what they own or what they are good at or the way that they look?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 3: No favouritism

## Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on James 2. 1-13)



### Introduction:

It is very easy to fall into the habit of treating people well if they are popular, good-looking or rich and not so well if they are none of these things.

One of Jesus' followers, James, told a story about exactly this kind of thing.



**Telling tips: Best to have everyone do all the actions here. You don't want to split the group into two and, even by mistake, put kids in either group who fit the description in the story.**

James wanted to make sure that Christians were living their lives in the way that Jesus taught them - that they were following Jesus' example.

So he wrote a letter. And one of the things he wrote about had to do with the way Christians treat people who are different from one another.

'Brothers and sisters,' he wrote (because Christians see themselves as part of one big family), 'you shouldn't act differently towards people because of what they look like or how much money they have.

Let's say a rich man comes into your church. He has a gold ring on his finger. **(Have everyone hold out a hand and say, proudly, 'Look at my ring!').**

He's wearing an expensive, designer suit. **(Have everyone hold out their arms and say, proudly, 'Look at my fancy suit!').**

Now let's say that the next person who comes in is poor **(Have everyone shrug and say, quietly, 'I don't have much money').**

And his clothes are ragged and shabby. **(Have everyone say, quietly again, 'And I could use some new gear').**

So you say to the rich man with the ring **(Repeat ring action)** and the designer suit **(Repeat suit action)**, "Come over here, sir. Have the best seat in the house."

Then you say to the poor man **(Repeat poor action)** with the shabby clothes **(Repeat shabby clothes action)**, "Hey you, go stand in the corner, or take a seat on the floor."

Do you see what you have done? You have judged both of those people simply by the way they look. And you have decided that one is better than the other simply on the basis of how much money they have. And that's just plain wrong.

Didn't Jesus, himself, say that the poor **(Repeat poor action)** are especially blessed by God? Didn't he say that God loves them and they will inherit His kingdom? So why have you treated the poor man in such a shameful way?

Jesus was plain. And he's our Lord, isn't he, the one whose words we follow? So when he said, "Love your neighbour in the same way you love yourself," He meant it.

So if you don't want someone treating you differently because of what you have or what you wear, then you shouldn't do that to others.

Treat everyone the same - the rich man with the golden ring **(Repeat action)** and the poor man with the shabby clothes **(Repeat action)**.

## Reflecting



In this story, the author encourages us to treat everyone with respect.

- Have you ever been made to feel less important than others?
- How does this affect the way you treat others?
- What lessons did you learn?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 3: No favouritism

#### Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Help me to show respect and friendship to everyone.'

**Leader:** Father God, some people are really rich and some are not,

**All:** Help me to show respect and friendship to everyone.

**Leader:** Some people are fantastic at maths and some are not,

**All:** Help me to show respect and friendship to everyone.

**Leader:** Some people are brilliant at sport and some are not,

**All:** Help me to show and respect and friendship to everyone.

**Leader:** Some people are like me and others are not,

**All:** Help me to show and respect and friendship to everyone.

Amen.

#### Sending



As we remember how we should treat one another with respect,

May God the Father encourage us,

God the Son befriend us,

And God the Holy Spirit support us.

Amen.

#### Thought for the Day...

**'Do not judge by appearances. A rich heart may be under a poor coat.'**

*(Scottish proverb)*

**Background:** The Scots language is full of such pithy phrases, many of them dating back hundreds of years. Here are some other sayings about managing money that have been passed down through generations of Scots: 'Look after the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves', 'From saving comes having', and 'A fool may earn money, but it takes a wise man to keep it'.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 4: Caring with compassion

## Justice

# 4

## Caring with compassion

### Worship Table

- Bible open at Matthew 25.35 – 40 - Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.
- A cross and a candle.
- A model or toy house.

### Leader's Background Notes

The following words were spoken by Jesus as he taught his followers about preparing for the future when they would have to give an account of their lives to God.

<sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.

<sup>37</sup> Then they all answered him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?'

<sup>40</sup> The Lord will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'



## Welcome



### Light the candle

#### Greeting Option 1

On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at Matthew 25.35 – 40 - Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. We also have a house.

#### Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Justice**.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 4: Caring with compassion

## Learning



### Puppet Drama

#### Introduction:

Jesus once told his followers that whenever they helped someone else, such as someone who is sick, homeless or poor, then it is just as if they had given help to Jesus himself.

Bella and Barney have been finding out how the people at Bob's church have a special way of helping. The symbol on our Worship Table gives us a clue.

#### Props:

Blankets.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Bob comes in struggling with his arms so full of blankets that some are falling to the floor).

**Barney:** You've got your hands full there Bob! Want some help?

**Bob:** That would be great! Thanks Barney (Barney and Bella pick up the blankets that are on the floor).

**Bella:** So where are you headed?

**Bob:** I've just picked these up from the charity shop in town and I'm taking them to the Open House Project.

**Barney:** The what project?

**Bob:** It's a centre that helps people who are homeless.

**Barney:** How does it do that?

**Bob:** Well one thing it does is to give people a place to sleep when there is nowhere for them to go.

About a year ago someone called John came to our church on a Sunday morning and asked if he could camp out in the church. He was living on the streets and it was the middle of winter. We gave him some food and then set about trying to find him somewhere warm and

comfortable to stay. That's when we found out about Open House.

**Bella:** Are there really people in our town with nowhere to sleep?

**Bob:** Certainly are. John was a gardener but had been ill and lost his job. His parents are in a care home for the elderly so they couldn't take him in. John ran out of money and couldn't pay his rent so the landlord told him he had to move out of his flat. It all happened really quickly. Before he knew it, he was homeless and on the streets.

**Barney:** But why did he come to your church? It isn't your problem is it?

**Bob:** Jesus once said that when we feed the hungry, care for the sick and offer hospitality and welcome, it is as if we are doing it for him.

**Bella:** So I guess the church was exactly the right place to go then!

**Bob:** Yup! (They stop outside the Open House Centre) Here we are. Why don't you come in and meet John. He helps to run this place now. He's amazing! He can tell you the rest of his story.

## Reflecting



Have you ever come across a homeless person, either in real life or on television? Discuss with your talk partner.

- How did you feel about that person when you saw them?
- Do you still feel the same way now or have your views changed?

**If someone knows about a project that offers practical help to homeless people, perhaps get them to share what they know with everyone.**

# Values for LifeSavers

## Justice 4: Caring with compassion

### Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on Matthew 25. 31-46)



#### Introduction:

Jesus told stories to encourage his listeners but he also told stories to challenge them and really make them think about the way they were living their lives, and how they treated others.



**Telling tips: You can either have everyone do every action, or you can split the children into groups and have each group do one of the actions in turn. You could also ask for volunteers and have them do the actions in turn.**

Jesus talked a lot about the Kingdom of God. That was the phrase he used to describe how things will be when everything is as God wants it to be in the world. He often used stories, called parables, to explain the Kingdom of God. This is one of those stories:

When the King comes to judge the world, he will separate people into two groups, like a shepherd separates his sheep from his goats.

He will put one group of people on his right, and the other group on his left.

Then he will say to the group on his right,

'Well done! Come, receive all the good things I have prepared for you.

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. **(Have everyone pretend to feed someone with a spoon, or hand over a piece of bread).**

I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. **(Have everyone pretend to hold a cup and give someone a drink).**

I was a stranger to your community, and you welcomed me with open arms. **(Have everyone stretch arms open wide and shout 'Welcome!').**

I had no clothes, and you gave me something to wear.

I was ill, and you visited me.

I was in prison, and you came to see me."

Then the people on the king's right will say,

'But when did this happen, Lord? When did we feed you **(Repeat action)**, or give you something to drink **(Repeat action)**, or welcome you **(Repeat action)**, or clothe you or visit you when you were ill, or in prison.'

And the king will say,

'Whenever you did those things for any of my brothers or my sisters - even the ones you might have imagined were the least important - it was just the same as if you were doing it for me!'

And as for the people on his left, the ones who did not feed the hungry **(Have everyone shrug shoulders and say, 'Not my problem, can't be bothered!')**, or give drink to the thirsty **(Repeat action)**, or welcome the stranger **(Repeat action)**, or clothe those without clothes, or visit the ill or those in prison, they will be sent away from the presence of the king, forever.

### Reflecting



What do you think Jesus meant when he said, 'Whenever you did those things for any of my brothers or my sisters - even the ones you might have imagined were the least important - it was just the same as if you were doing it for me.'? Discuss with your talk partner.

- Do you family or friends ever get sick or need help? What could you do to help them?
- Do you know any charities that help people who are hungry or homeless or in need? What could you do to support them?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 4: Caring with compassion

#### Responding



As we have been finding out, anyone can hit difficult times in their lives and suddenly find themselves in great need. Jesus wants us to have compassion which means showing deep concern and love for one another, especially those who are sick, homeless or poor.

After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'Let me help them as I would help you.'

**Leader:** Lord Jesus,

When I see someone who is sad,

**All:** Let me help them as I would help you.

**Leader:** When I meet someone in need,

**All:** Let me help them as I would help you.

**Leader:** When I know that someone is lonely,

**All:** Let me help them as I would help you.

Amen.

#### Sending



As we remember that whatever we do for others, we do for you Lord Jesus,  
 May God the Father encourage us,  
 God the Son befriend us,  
 And God the Holy Spirit support us.  
 Amen.

#### Thought for the Day...

**'A nation's greatness is measured by how it treats its weakest members.'**

*(Mahatma Gandhi, political and spiritual leader, 1869-1948)*

**Background:** Gandhi led India to independence from Britain and inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. Whilst campaigning for Indian independence, he also worked hard to defend the rights and improve the lives of the "untouchables", the lowest caste of people within the Hindu religion, whom he re-named the Harijans or 'children of God'.

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 5: Fair Trade

# Justice

# 5

# Fair Trade

### Worship Table

- Bible open at Proverbs 29.7 - A good person knows the rights of the poor.
- A cross and a candle.
- Several Fair Trade items.

### Leader's Background Notes

Justice is about much more than 'caring and sharing'. That is part of it, but it is also about making sure that people are paid a fair price for the work that they do, so that they are able to support themselves and their families.

## Welcome



### Light the candle

#### Greeting Option 1

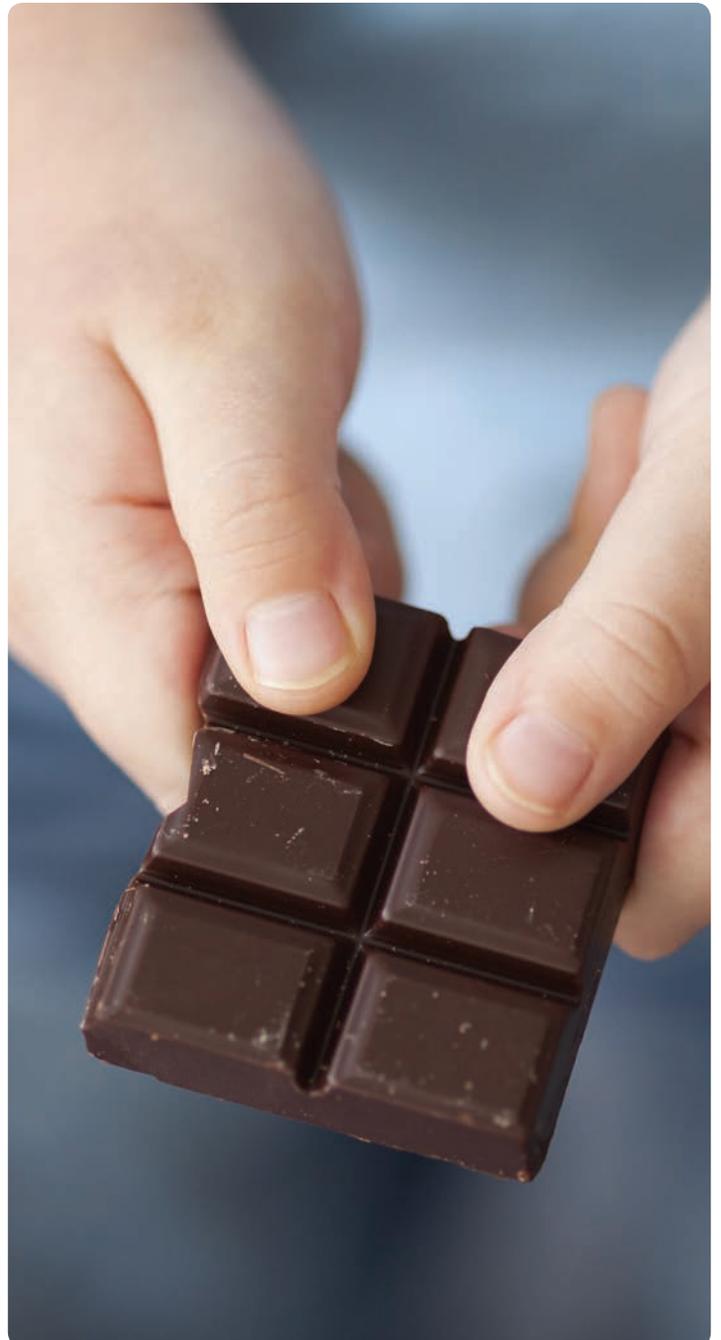
On our Worship Table today we have the Bible, God's word; the cross of Jesus His Son; and the candle which we light to remind us of God's Holy Spirit.

The Bible is open at Proverbs 29.7 - A good person knows the rights of the poor.

We also have some Fair Trade items.

#### Greeting Option 2

We have gathered together as a family to think about our value **Justice**.



# Values for LifeSavers

## Justice 5: Fair Trade

### Learning



#### Puppet Drama

##### Introduction:

Draw the children's attention to the Fair Trade items on the table and ask what these items have in common. You may need to ask volunteers to come and take a closer look.

Ask if anyone knows what 'Fair Trade' is. Accept the children's suggestions.

We rely on farmers, in our country and in other countries, to provide us with food, but many farmers are struggling because they are not receiving a fair price for what they produce. This means that they do not make enough money for themselves and their families to live on.

Barney, Bella and Bob are about to find out more.

##### Props:

Supermarket carrier bag filled with items for Barney to carry.

Children can perform the drama themselves. Alternatively, use puppets.



Outside the local supermarket. Barney appears with a bag of food and Bob and Bella arrive from the other direction).

**Bella:** Hello, Barney, helping with the weeks shopping?

**Barney:** Not really, I'm doing my Geography investigation on whether it costs more to buy Fair Trade goods and I ended up buying some of them!

(He holds up his bag)

**Bob:** What's Fair Trade?

**Bella:** It's when something is sold to us at a price that gives the people who grow or produce it a fair deal.

**Barney:** Yes, so the farmers can feed their families and make a decent living.

**Bob:** I thought farmers were rich. Don't they own loads of land and animals?

**Bella:** Not all of them. Most farmers in the world are actually really struggling to make ends meet. Even in our country the

dairy farmer that supplies my Dad's yogurt factory says he will be going out of business and selling his land if things get much worse.

**Bob:** (thoughtfully) Hmm that's bad. (Pause) So what did you find out Barney? Is Fair Trade stuff more expensive?

**Barney:** Some is and some isn't.

**Bob:** Would you pay more for Fair Trade things, Bella?

**Bella:** Yes, and we do! My Mum says it's a matter of justice for the farmers of the world and if we don't let our wallets do the talking, then nothing will ever change for them.

**Bob:** I wonder if my Mum buys Fair Trade things. Can you buy Fair Trade chocolate?

**Bella:** Definitely!

**Bob:** Right then, let's go.

(Bob and Bella exit into the supermarket).

#### Reflecting



- Do you think it is a good idea to buy Fair Trade goods?
- How do you think more people can be encouraged to buy Fair Trade goods even if they sometimes cost a bit more?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 5: Fair Trade

#### Learning

Alternatively, you may wish to use this story by Bob Hartman (Based on 1 Kings 21. 1-24)



#### Introduction:

God's justice is about making sure that everyone is treated fairly, no matter who they are or where they live. In this story a rich king uses his power to take an ordinary man's vineyard from him without paying a fair price for it. Listen carefully and look out for the way Naboth is treated by the king and queen.



**Telling tips: You can either have everyone do both actions, or you can divide your group in two (boys and girls, if you like, or mixed) and give each group one action.**

Ahab was the king of Israel.

Next to his palace there was a vineyard, owned by a man called Naboth.

Ahab wanted that vineyard. He wanted it badly. He hoped to turn it into a vegetable patch. So he went to see Naboth.

'I'll trade you for it,' said Ahab. 'One of my own vineyards, if you like. Or, I'm happy just to pay for it.'

'Sorry,' said Naboth. 'This vineyard is really valuable to me. Much more valuable than that. I inherited it from my father. And I really don't want to part with it.'

Ahab left, disappointed, then went into the palace, and threw himself on his bed, and turned his face to the wall, and had a bit of a sulk.

**(Have everyone cross their arms and make a sulking face).**

When he refused to even come down for dinner, his queen, Jezebel, went to see what was the matter.

'Naboth won't sell me his vineyard,' sulked Ahab (Have them make another sulking face).

'You are the king of Israel!' sighed Jezebel. 'Surely you can think of something.'

But all Ahab did was sulk some more. **(Another sulking face).**

'Then leave it with me,' said Jezebel with an evil grin. **(Have everyone make an evil face, and maybe even laugh a little evil laugh).** 'I'll sort it out. Now cheer up and have something to eat.'

Jezebel went to her study and wrote some letters to the local officials, in the king's name, then sealed them with his special seal.

'My dear friends,' the letters read, 'I would like you to proclaim a special holiday and invite Naboth to sit, front and centre, where everyone can see him. Then I want you to hire a couple of men to stand up, in the middle of the celebration, and falsely accuse him of some evil deed - cursing God and the king will do. Then I want you to take him outside of the city and throw stones at him until he is dead.

Thank you for your co-operation.

King Ahab'

Jezebel sent off the letters. (Another evil grin and laugh) And when the deed had been done, she went to see Ahab again.

'Naboth is dead!' she announced with glee. **(Another evil grin and laugh).** 'There is no longer anything in your way. You can take his vineyard, for free! A much better price, I'd say!'

So Ahab went down to Naboth's vineyard. And while he was there, God's prophet, Elijah, showed up.

'God is not pleased with you. Not pleased at all,' said Elijah. 'You have killed a man to steal his property! So this is what God says. "On the very spot where the dogs licked up Naboth's blood, they will lick up yours, as well! And as for your queen, the dogs will eat her up, too."'

And while Ahab may have sulked at such news **(Sulking face)**, and Jezebel may have laughed **(Evil grin and laugh)**, both prophecies came true, in the end.

#### Reflecting



- How do you feel about the way in which King Ahab and Queen Jezebel took the vineyard from Naboth? Was it fair?

In our world today, similar things still happen. Rich and powerful companies force farmers and workers in poorer countries to work for very low wages, so they can make bigger profits.

- Is there anything we can do to try to change this, so that workers everywhere are treated fairly?

## Values for LifeSavers

### Justice 5: Fair Trade

#### Responding



After each line of this prayer, you may wish to join in with the words, 'May we treat them fairly, wherever they are.'

**Leader:** God of justice, Father of all,

We pray for farmers who work on the land.

**All:** May we treat them fairly, wherever they are.

**Leader:** We pray for factory workers who supply all the shops.

**All:** May we treat them fairly, wherever they are.

**Leader:** We pray for shop workers who serve in the stores.

**All:** May we treat them fairly, wherever they are.

Amen.

#### Sending



As we try to work for a world that is fair for everyone,  
May God the Father encourage us,  
God the Son befriend us,  
And God the Holy Spirit support us.  
Amen.

#### Thought for the Day...

**'Before you finish eating breakfast this morning, you've depended on more than half the world.'**

*(Martin Luther King. Jr., Baptist minister and civil rights activist, 1929-1968)*

**Background:** Martin Luther King is best known for his role in the struggle for equal rights for black Americans in the 1950s and 1960s. He believed in non-violent protest, based on his Christian beliefs, and organised a series of protests to highlight the unfair treatment of black people. He inspired many others to take up the cause, including Rosa Parks who famously refused to give up her seat in a part of the bus reserved for white people only.

## Values for LifeSavers

### LifeSavers Core Values

# Justice

Justice is ensuring that all people, especially the poor and oppressed, receive what is fair and right - life, freedom, dignity, and a decent standard of living for the society in which they live.

Principle	Christian belief
Justice includes being fair and honest in our dealings with money.	Christians believe that God is hurt when we deliberately mislead or exploit others.
Justice is about sharing what we have more fairly, both individually and collectively.	Christians believe that God is unhappy when some people have very little, while others have more than enough.
Justice means treating everyone with respect and dignity, regardless of how rich, clever or good-looking they are.	Christians believe it is wrong to show favouritism, because all people are equally loved and valued by God.
Justice means having a particular concern for those who are poor or disadvantaged.	Christians believe that, whenever we help someone who is poor, homeless, or sick, it is as if we are helping Jesus.
Justice includes making sure that people are paid a fair price for their work, so they can support themselves and their families.	Christians are encouraged to challenge economic injustice and consider how their financial choices have an impact on others.

# LifeSavers

Helping children manage money wisely

**LifeSavers** supports schools in setting up savings clubs and helps children and their families learn about money. A partnership between the Archbishop of Canterbury's Just Finance Foundation and Young Enterprise, it is being extended to 120 primary schools over three years, with financial support from Virgin Money. Additional funding from the Government will be used to share the resources and learning with other schools through a LifeSavers website.



**Young Enterprise** is the UK's leading charity that empowers young people to harness their personal and business skills. We work directly with young people, their teachers and parents, businesses and influencers to build a successful and sustainable future for all young people and society at large.

## JUST FINANCE FOUNDATION

The **Just Finance Foundation** was established by the Church of England and Church Urban Fund to develop and implement the Archbishop of Canterbury's vision of a fairer and more just financial system. We work with credit unions, churches, schools and other local organisations to strengthen the financial resilience of communities through financial education and improved access to responsible credit and saving and free debt advice services.



free expert advice for anyone teaching young people about money  
email: ask@pfeg.org call: 0300 6660 127 tweet: @pfeg\_org using #ASKpfeg

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# LifeSavers

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