

Wherever You Go

Best Friends – 10 minutes – Activity

Think of a surprising friendship, either from the Bible or from television or movies – like Shrek and donkey or Danny and Sandy – people that you wouldn't expect to be friends.

Each person should pretend to be the friends that they have chosen and introduce themselves to the rest of the group:

“Hi, we are (Shrek and Donkey). We have been friends for (a while) now. People are surprised that we are friends because (he's a donkey and I'm an ogre. Also he never stops talking and I am a grumpy watsit who likes peace and quiet.)

When each person has been introduced write their (fictional) names on a flip chart (r piece of paper).

Ask the children to think about which of the pairs were the most surprising friends. Each child should take a slip of paper and vote for one of the pairs.

Count the votes and see who has been voted as the most unlikely friendship.

You could finish off the activity by talking briefly about what might make very different people want to be friends with each other. What makes a good friendship?

The Point: To think about unlikely friends.

My Life and Family

Digging in – 15 minutes – Bible Study

https://www.dltk-kids.com/bible/cv/ruth_and_naomi.htm

Read the story of Ruth together (*the above link is a children's version if you want to use that*) and then discuss these questions together:

- Why do you think Ruth refused to leave Naomi? Her life would have been much easier if she had stayed in Moab.
- What can we learn about true friendship from Ruth's example?
- Ruth was a lot younger than Naomi. Do you think it is possible for people of different ages to be friends?
- What can friends who are different ages give each other that friends of the same age can't?
- What other things do friends give up for each other?

- Does being a good friend always mean making sacrifices in order to help your friend?
- Do you think there were any rewards for Ruth? Read Matthew 1:5 to find out!

The Point: To understand the story of Ruth and Naomi. To think about the sacrifices friends make for one another.

Tough Love

Takeaway – Discussion

(You can decide to discuss this with each other the children might want to do it privately: purely up to you)

1. What do you understand 'friendship' to mean? Going by your understanding of 'friendship', is it something you do? Give examples of how or when you have shown friendship.
2. This week try and show friendship to someone you wouldn't normally be friends with (e.g. someone that might have upset you in the past, someone you don't particularly feel comfortable with or someone whom you would not describe as your 'favourite person'). Share your experience with the group at the next meeting.