

KS2 Unit 4, Lesson 9: Beatitudes

Context: In this lesson we are asking pupils to explore the message of the Beatitudes told through the Bible story Matthew 5:1-12 and 43-46 and to have a clear understanding of what unconditional love means to Christians and non-Christians alike. They will go on to see how Christians live out these beliefs in their everyday lives and to understand that Jesus is love.

Overview:

- Understand what Jesus said about selfless, unconditional love in the Beatitudes.
- Reflect on how Christians live out these beliefs through their everyday lives.

Essential core:

To have a clear understanding of Agape - selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love.

Resources: <http://request.org.uk/jesus/teaching/the-sermon-on-the-mountain-the-beatitudes>

Art resources to support poster/ collage work.

Vocabulary:

Beatitudes, Agape - selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love

Key Questions:

What are The Beatitudes?

Why are they important to Christians?

What do they mean?

Why were they written?

What is selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love?

INTRODUCTION:

Remind pupils of The Beatitudes and discussions from previous session and language explored /generated during discussion.

<http://request.org.uk/jesus/teaching/the-sermon-on-the-mountain-the-beatitudes>

MAIN PART:

Group work: pupils to be given one of The Beatitudes to explore. What do they think this particular Beatitude might mean? How could it apply to Christians today?

Think about Examples of Agape (unconditional love) in action

What are Christians doing about this near us? E.g.: Street Pastors, food banks, Christians Against Poverty, Open Door (Taunton) Genesis Trust (Bath). Internationally? E.g.: TEAR Fund, Cafod.

Task:

Design an up to date image of one of the beatitudes for class/church display. Use any kind of artistic medium to represent this using a modern interpretation of the words or original if preferred.

See resources for ideas or Google images for further examples.

Interview a street pastor, food bank volunteer, Christians Against Poverty counsellor, or other Christian charity worker to explore first hand agape love in action.

Plenary:

Discuss: What word describes selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love?

Why is this kind of love important to Christians?

Differentiation:

Select easier statement for groups to more easily understand.

Formative assessment:

Write - How does their belief in Agape change the beliefs and actions of Christians?