

## KS2 Unit 2, Lesson 5: What did Jesus teach about sin, forgiveness and redemption? The parable of the unforgiving servant

**Context:** Previously children will have learned about why Jesus is important to Christians (Key Stage 1 Unit 9) and will be familiar with the narratives of the Christmas and Easter stories, as well as some other bible stories. They will have learned the parable of the prodigal son.

**Overview:** Children understand the message of the Prodigal Son story, and what it teaches Christians about God.

**Essential core:** Christians believe the Bible talks about what God is like and his relationship with people who believe in Him.

**Vocabulary:** forgiving, patient, God's character.

**Resources:** powerpoint, response sheet.

### INTRODUCTION

Give children post-it notes, and ask them to write down, without discussion, words that they think a Christian might use to describe God. Collect in the post-its and discuss children's responses. Are there any that they agree/ disagree with? Would they like to ask another child a question about their response?

Recap the story of the Prodigal Son, and its hidden meaning- who each character is meant to be like. Give groups of children a small version of the picture from the powerpoint, and ask them to write words and phrases around the picture to describe what each of the characters is like.

Take some responses, and as you do so, relate it to the hidden meaning of the parable- eg the younger son is greedy and rebellious, he doesn't care about his father- Jesus was saying in the story that is what people are like. The Father is loving, kind, forgiving, waiting for his son to come home- Jesus was saying that is what God is like, the older brother is jealous and angry- some people can be like that too.

Hot seating- With teacher in role as the Father- ask children to ask questions about the story. Children could then have a go in groups or as a whole class, hot-seating the Father, and the two sons in the story.

Ask children in groups to summarise what they think the main message of the story is. It's important that they realise that in this story Jesus is teaching people about what God is like- that he is patient, loving and forgiving towards people that have gone away from him, and waiting for him to come back.

Children can then individually fill in the response sheets and their responses could be used to assess their understanding against the essential core element of the lesson outlined above.

### PLENARY

Look at the thoughts that the children had about Christian ideas of God's character at the start of the lesson. Does anything else needed to be added after learning about this story?

