

## KS2 Unit 9 Lesson 4 and 5 – Ruth Valerio

**Context:** Focus on the inspirational actions of a present day Christian – whereby her actions have inspired significant changes within her local community and beyond.

**Overview:** Identify positive examples in the present day of inspirational Christians; understanding the values and commitments held by those of the Christian faith which have inspired changes within communities and the world. To understand how Jesus is still an inspirational figure today within the Christian Faith.

**Essential core:** Jesus told his followers, “As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” John 13.35. Give examples of the ways that the Christian Church shows the love of God both to its members and across society, in the UK and wider world today. E.g. visiting the sick, chaplains, hospices, food banks, rehabilitation of prisoners and addicts, helping the homeless, street pastors, promoting fair trade, aid work, education and working with youth.

Humans have a duty to care for God’s creation. They are the stewards of creation.

**Resources:** <http://ruthvalerio.net/about-me/>

<http://www.arocha.org/en>

<http://request.org.uk/issues/the-natural-world/environment/>

QR-Codes – resource is separate and provides a number of Websites children can use for research purposes. Ruth Valerio has written two books for adults both available on Amazon.

Just Living: Faith and Community in an Age of Consumerism (2016)

'L' is for Lifestyle: Christian Living That Doesn't Cost the Earth (2008)

### INTRODUCTION:

Remind the children of the previous lesson when the Christian visitor spoke of their work and inspiration of the faith. Over the next few lessons children will be introduced to a number of inspirational people within and out of the Christian faith.

Introduce the children to Ruth Valerio - a passionate environmentalist and campaigner for fair trade, founder of the charity Arocha and popular inspirational speaker. Her books provide a wealth of practical (and personally challenging!) material. Use the QR codes to support your research.

**Build up:** Listen to what Ruth and other Christians say about "living lightly" - an environmentally aware lifestyle.

<http://request.org.uk/issues/the-natural-world/environment/>

One fascinating thing about this leader is the way she has transformed life on her council estate – use the link below for back ground information.

<http://www.chichester.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=14288&p=0>

Encourage whole class discussion on how Ruth could inspire changes in their community? Discuss how this would affect the wider community – identifying the advantages and disadvantages of such changes.

### TASK:

To research the following areas with regards to Ruth Valerio’s role as an inspirational leader – children could record their findings in written format or using iPads; such as Inspiration Maps.

Children can then use computing or written skills to produce an information text in the style of a Biography or information text (Inspirations maps)

- Ruth claims her central influence is her Christian Faith, how is she inspired by Jesus?
- Within her work; why and how does she inspire people?
- How have her actions changed her local community? How is she inspiring others further a field?
- How might we change our lives in the light of the qualities demonstrated by Ruth Valerio?

**Final discussion** – once the children have completed their research discuss with them the following;  
What changes has Ruth made and tried to make?  
Why is her life an example that others see as inspiring?

**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT:**

What does it mean to be a good person? Why do people want to be good? How can we become a good person?