



## 'Come and See' – Step 2

### What our community believes

#### Aim

To appreciate the importance of the Bible, the reference point for Christian beliefs, and see how the life of Jesus gives meaning and inspiration to life.

#### Overview

- The Bible activity – what we know?
- Structure of the Bible
- Key stories and Characters in the Bible – people called by God
- Jesus, life, ministry and mission
- Reflection and prayer

#### Resources needed

##### Leaders

- Come and See notes / PPT
- PPT laptop and projector or TV
- Chosen Video clip
- Prayer focus items
- Optical Illusions if not using ppt

##### Young People

- Journals and hand outs

#### Preparation by Catechists

- Familiarity with content and resources
- Readiness to share about your own calling to faith and ministry
- Pray for the young people and leaders

#### Prayer Focus

Expressions of our belief:

**Bible** - (our reference point and comfort)

**Candle** - (Jesus the light of the world)

**Green cloth** - (Liturgical season)

**Names of some Biblical characters**

- (that will be encountered in the session)

**Image** - (symbolizing life in all its fullness)

#### Scripture Passages

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 a great mystery
- John 3:16, 10:10
- Being Called: Genesis 1:28, Matthew 5:14-16, John 21:16-17, Matthew 28:18-20
- Psalm 8 – David giving praise

#### Liturgical Link

The use of scripture in prayer and worship. Our Jewish roots are still evident in the Mass, where we hear God's word and are reminded of the life and teachings we are called to follow.

#### Tenets of Faith (Faith Formation)

- Bible – the inspired word of God
- We are part of a chain, the current owners of our faith
- Jesus came into the world to show God's love for all of humanity and to show the way to the Father.

\*\* Additional notes included on PPT

## Gathering

- **Welcome & Introduction:**
  - Welcome back quick review of last session and outline of this session
  - Offer a suitable welcome anyone new to the group.
  - Provide the overview and aim for today.
- **Introductory activity – The Bible:** (10 minutes) Individually - 30 seconds to jot down anything you know about the bible; compare with 1 other person, see what is common, flag anything you think may not be true. In turn pairs share 2 items, others who noted these raise their hand, or add to their list. Person to chart up on large sheet/whiteboard/screen. Affirm contribution and check the source of any false items. *Step 2 Handout* includes summary and the readings for the prayer.

**FF** - Important to be aware of our Jewish heritage and appreciate the use of Old (Hebrew Scriptures) and New Testament scriptures which remain part of Church Tradition and are still used in prayer and liturgy today. We are privileged to be part of a chain, the current owners of our faith. It is important for us to be open and willing to engage with the wisdom and traditions that have developed over time.

**Optional:** Chosen 2 min video clip (*CHOSEN - Intro session – Video Clip 1*)

## Opening Prayer

Our prayer is a reflection on 2 short texts: 2 Tim 3:14-17 and extract from *Dei Verbum 21*  
- simply sit with the readings and invite God to open our minds and hearts to his word.  
Invite responses.

**FF** - Scripture, the inspired word of God – is a support and guide. Sense of urgency and importance as Paul in jail and coming to the end of his life. Yes there is mystery, things we can't understand, but we are called to believe in the truth revealed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, as did Paul.

## Exploring Further

- **The Hebrew Scriptures Activity** (10 minutes)
  - In pairs, 30 seconds to recall stories from the Hebrew Scriptures.
  - While group is working place sheets with names of key Characters on the walls. (*Step 2 Resource*)
  - Feed back to the group – chart up the stories – key characters and what the stories reveal of God.
  - Draw attention to the names on the lists of any not mentioned by the group.
- FF** - what helps us remember such stories? People, & events, in particular drama links to our own lives?

- **Who am I? - Characters from the Christian Scriptures Activity** (15 mins)
  - Briefly explain and demonstrate the activity introducing the character, using the information, to reveal the identity, without giving the name.
  - Use the relationship link on the card to help if need be.
  - Hand out statements – one for each person, allow up to 10 minutes for individuals to meet other characters, and try to guess who they are.
  - Check which were the easiest and most difficult to work out?

- FF** - We are possibly aware of more bible stories and characters than we might first think, but some of the details may be a bit confused.
- all these characters were in some way called by God, given a particular job to do, and grew in relationship with God. Use handout to highlight a few. The Genesis passages shows how all people are called to be stewards of creation. God also has a particular role for each of us to take on.
  - Conclude with Psalm 8: David's song of praise acknowledging the Lord's faithfulness.

- **Who Is Jesus?**

**Activity 1: One Solitary Life** (10 mins) Prayerfully reflect while listening to the piece. ***What then has kept Jesus such a central figure in the lives and faith of so many?***

Allow a little time to ponder the question then individuals briefly share in 3's, and the group. Leader draw together the respond to the comments as a lead into next activity.

**Activity 2: Who is Jesus?** (20 mins) What do we now of his **home & family life?** Of **his friends?** Of his **mission** and ministry? Of his **enemies?** Of **where** he was born, visited and died? Each person to make a quick response to these questions using post it notes, which they stick on the relevant headed sheets placed on the walls. In 2's or 3's each group is given one of the sheets, a bible and some scripture references to look up to find out a bit more information to add to the sheet, then share with the group.

## Time to Reflect

- FF** - Jesus came into the world to show God's love for all of humanity and to show the way to the Father. These two short quotes from St John's Gospel: John 3:16 and 10:10 (have on the screen), provide a summary of the purpose of Jesus' life.

- **Fullness of Life Activity:**

- Invite the young people to reflect on the questions posed (have on the screen, or use the handout)
- Encourage use of journal for jottings.

- FF** - God is always close to us, in our times of joy and happiness we may not notice. It is often in our times of doubt or despair that we remember to call on God. Even if we don't it is at such times God will be closest to us - as the closing prayer will explain.

## Closing Prayer

- **Our Cross:** From the activity 2 sheets make a cross shape on the floor around which all gather and sit. The candle is placed in the center and each person given a footprint on which to write their name.
- **Footprints:** all listen prayerfully to this reflection, then in turn, gently place their foot on the cross, while offering a silent prayer.
- Together we pray:  
Lord God, for the many life-giving experiences we enjoy, for the times you lift our spirits and help us overcome difficulties, and for our time together today we thank you. Amen.

- FF** - Our cross depicts the colourful nature of Jesus and the fullness of life that he wishes us to have.  
- Placing your name on the footprint and that on the cross is an expression of your desire to know and follow Jesus.

## Closing Remarks and Next Step

- Check how group are feeling about todays' gathering
- Time, date and venue for the next stepping-stone, *Come and See how our community lives*
- Encourage personal and prayer support of one another and offer to attend Mass with the young parishioners accompanying the inquirers on the journey.