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SPIRIT OF JESUS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

FOR TEACHERS

Welcome to the *Spirit of Jesus*, designed for Years 3 and 4.

While not a replacement for your Religious Education program, *Spirit of Jesus* will certainly complement it, as well as your Wellbeing and Social and Emotional Learning programs.

There is no right or wrong way to approach the teaching of this resource. Split the topics over two years or revisit them again and again over two years. Use the topics as 5 - 10min lessons or expand them to larger lessons or units of work. There is so much flexibility!

This book includes a reflective journal, which students can use to reflect and record how they have seen the spirit of Jesus. It is divided into sections for Years 3 and Year 4 for your convenience.

FOR STUDENTS

This is your book for life. Treat it with respect, have fun, but most importantly, be honest. If you are to grow and develop your relationship with Jesus through the activities in this book then you must be honest. Don't write something that is what you think someone else 'wants to hear' even if it's for your friends, your teacher or your parents. This book is for you and you alone. Treasure it!

At the back of the book is a reflective journal for you to record where you have found the spirit of Jesus in your life.

FOR PARENTS

This book will help you in your unique role as the primary educators in your child's life. It will help equip them with skills and values such as resilience, teamwork and gratitude. It will assist you in developing their understanding of their Catholic faith and the importance of an ongoing relationship with Jesus.

As educators, we hope your child will bring these concepts home to share with you. We think that you will notice a difference in your child as they develop their relationship with Jesus – a relationship they can have for life.

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS?

Spirit is sometimes a difficult word to understand. We often hear the word 'spirit' being mentioned. The spirit of Jesus is something that we can feel in our hearts and see through other people.

If we have the spirit of Jesus in our hearts, then we are:



kind



compassionate



welcoming



cheerful



friendly



encouraging



giving



forgiving



thankful

We can see the spirit of Jesus working through each other and we can say, "There is the spirit of Jesus!"

THANKS!

YOU CAN BORROW
MY HIGHLIGHTER.



REFLECTION

Where did you see the spirit of Jesus today?

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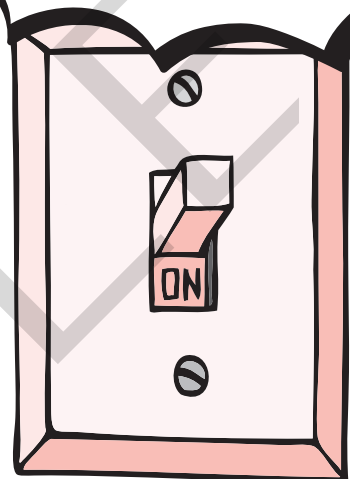
WHERE IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS TODAY?

Jesus' message is just as important today as it was 2,000 years ago. Then, he told stories to spread the message of the gospel (good news). Now, he uses the people in our lives to get his gospel message across.

Today, the spirit of Jesus is in the everyday positive things that you see and hear people say and do.

Once you start being 'switched on' to these things you will be amazed how many you will see and hear. If you look around each day you can see so many people showing you how Jesus wants you to live.

BE SWITCHED ON!



ACTIVITY



What was something good that has been done for you today? (Hint: who made your lunch or got you to school?)



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WHERE IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS IN OUR LIFE?

The spirit of Jesus is in our hearts and we take him with us wherever we go; out to the playground, when we go home, to the supermarket with Mum and Dad and during games. We take the spirit of Jesus with us all the time, in whatever we are doing.

The most amazing thing happens when we do something good for others – we shine the light of the spirit of Jesus out of our hearts! And, when we see others doing good things, we see the spirit of Jesus in them.

**IF WE LOOK CLOSELY
AND ARE SWITCHED ON
TO THESE MOMENTS THEN
WE START TO REALISE
THAT JESUS IS WITH US
ALL DAY, EVERYDAY!**



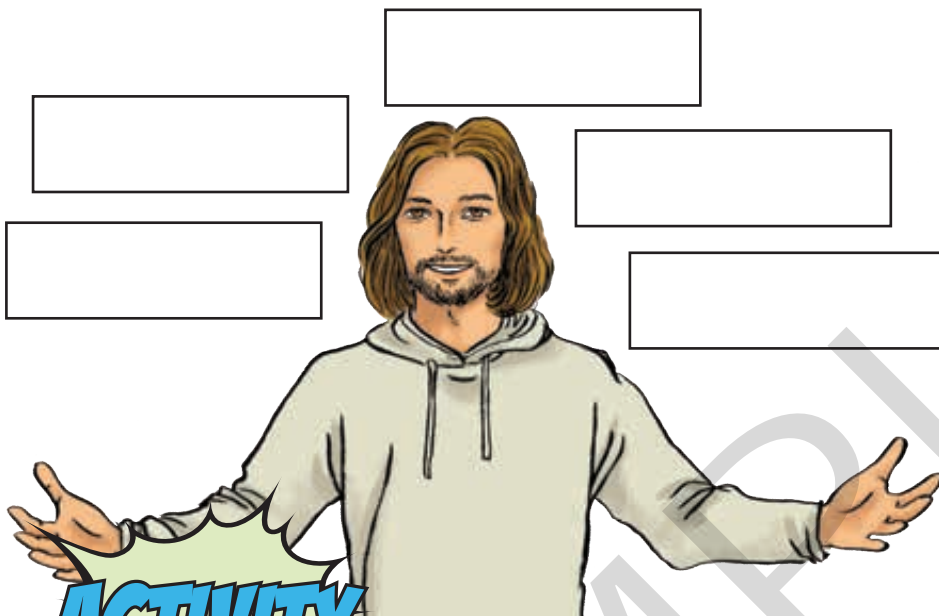
Where have you seen the spirit of Jesus?

A large, vibrant pink heart with a white outline. Inside the heart, the word "JESUS" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The heart is surrounded by several thin, dotted lines radiating outwards, giving it a glowing or shining effect. A large, faint, grey watermark of the word "SAMPLE" is visible across the background of the page.

JESUS

HOW DO WE SHOW THE SPIRIT OF JESUS?

What are some of the values that Jesus showed?



"EVERY TIME YOU SMILE AT SOMEONE, IT IS AN ACTION OF LOVE, A GIFT TO THAT PERSON, A BEAUTIFUL THING."

*SAINT TERESA
OF CALCUTTA
(MOTHER TERESA)*

ACTIVITY

Which of those values do you show in your life?

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Which ones would you like to show more often?

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REFLECTION

Discuss with your group, "How do we show that we have the spirit of Jesus in our hearts?"

WHAT ARE PARABLES?

The amazing thing is that although Jesus used these parables 2,000 years ago, we can still hear them today!

We hear the daily gospel (good news) every time we see someone doing something good for us or for someone else. And we can see the gospel in ourselves when we do good things for others!



REFLECTION

1. Which of Jesus' parables is your favourite?

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2. What message does this parable have?

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WHAT ARE GOSPEL VALUES?

Jesus taught through stories. They were called parables. These parables always had a message. These are just some of the 'gospel values'!

KINDNESS

Matthew 15:32

WELCOMING

Luke 9:48

FORGIVING PEOPLE

Luke 19:1-10

SAYING THANK YOU

Matthew 15:35-37

BEING GRATEFUL

Luke 17:11-19

WHAT ARE GOSPEL VALUES?



ACTIVITY

Can you think of any more gospel values that Jesus showed?

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HOW CAN WE BE MORE LIKE JESUS?

Being more like Jesus is about thinking of others and serving others.

Being ...

... MORE HELPFUL
AT HOME AND
SCHOOL

... A GIVER

... WELCOMING

... TOLERANT,
UNDERSTANDING
AND PATIENT
OF OTHERS AT
SCHOOL AND
HOME

... KIND TO EVERYONE

... ENCOURAGING

... ABLE TO SAY SORRY



ACTIVITY

How do you show that you have the spirit of Jesus? What are some actions that you can do to be more like Jesus?

PACKING AND CARRYING
YOUR SCHOOL BAG

SETTING THE TABLE

MAKING YOUR OWN BREAKFAST

MAKING YOUR BED

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IS THE SPIRIT OF JESUS IN THE PLAYGROUND?

When you go out in the yard, look for all of the good things that you see happening. This is the spirit of Jesus in your school playground. Remember, these good news stories are happening all of the time, you just need to be switched on to see them.

Isabella was walking with her friends and saw a prep student who didn't have anyone to play with. She spoke to her friends and they took the prep to the sandpit and stayed with her until she was OK.

How did Isabella show the spirit of Jesus?



Xavier was playing soccer with his friends. A player from the other team slide-tackled him and he was knocked over. He appealed to the group but they all said it was a clean tackle. Xavier accepted the decision and played on without arguing.

What gospel value did Xavier show?



Where did you see the spirit of Jesus in your playground?

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HOW DO WE CONNECT WITH JESUS?

You can talk to Jesus the way you talk to anyone else. But you can also use prayer to talk with Jesus.

Formal prayers, like Our Father (the Lord's Prayer) and the Hail Mary are important.

Don't just repeat them without thinking. Feel them and believe that they are important because of who you are speaking to.

PRAYER OF THANKS

We thank you, God, for happy hearts, for rain and sunny weather.

We thank you, God, for this our food, and that we are together.



Write your own prayer. Maybe you could say thanks to Jesus for all of the great people in your life or even ask him to help you to see his spirit in your life more often.

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Pope Francis@Pontifex Sep24

Let us walk together taking care of each other and of Creation, our common home.

HOW CAN WE TALK TO JESUS?

Jesus asks us to talk to him through prayer. We have so many ways of doing that. The best way is to simply talk to him as a friend.

PRAYER CAN BE CONVERSATION WITH JESUS. TALK TO HIM THE WAY YOU WOULD TALK WITH YOUR FRIENDS.

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR FRIENDS?

Sometimes you play, watch movies or do homework together. When something good or bad happens you want to tell your friend. Sometimes friends want us to listen. This is what makes a good friendship – spending time together, talking and listening.

ACTIVITY

Draw your best friend and the best time you have together.

