

Sign of the Cross. Let's sing. (See p. 170.)

quietly by yourselves



Have you ever stuck up for someone and then been laughed at for doing so?

Have you ever tried stopping someone from doing wrong and they have turned and called you names?

What sort of names do they call you?

when each child has had time to think



Share stories.

Do others say 'who do you think you are?'

Do you find that you sometimes end up in trouble too?

Who are the children who usually get picked on, teased, laughed at?

What names are they called?



Can you remember last week's Gospel?
(Read last week's Gospel again.)

welcome the Gospel. Sing Alleluia. (See p. 220)



all stand (adapted from Luke 4:21-30)

When Jesus finished reading out the important words everyone looked at him wondering what he was going to say next.

Jesus said, "I am going to do these things."

The people got angry, "Who does he think he is?" they said.

Jesus told them to listen. But they wouldn't change their attitudes and they threw him out.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



all sit (some suggestions)

Was it easy for Jesus to stand up for what is right?

Do you think he got frightened?

What would you have done if you had been Jesus?

Is it what Jesus did?

It's really hard to follow Jesus!

Jesus was actually in a lot of danger after they threw him out but he managed to escape.

How do you think he escaped?

Let's pray: Jesus please make us brave,

help us to do what's right.

In your loving way

hear our prayer.

BE TRUE

VISUAL AIDS

- > A Bible on a stand or a cushion.
- > A scroll tied with a ribbon.
- > The theme **BE TRUE** on a large heart shape.
- > Pictures of a range of different people.
- > Heart shape cut-outs.

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

Say/sing together:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord has sent me to proclaim the Good News.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Good News given to us by Luke.
Glorify to you, Lord.

After reading from the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue Jesus began to speak:
 'The words you have just heard are coming true today in me.' The people were amazed, because he made the scriptures so clear by the way he read and explained them.

DISCUSSION

Recap as much as may be necessary from last week: that Jesus is in his home town; he has just read from the scroll of Isaiah; and said that the prophecy is coming true in him.

Why did the people begin to mutter, and then get angry with Jesus?
 - because they didn't like what he said.

What did they not like?
 - that someone they knew should be telling them how to behave
 - that he told them to stop being selfish, etc.

Do the children think the people wanted to change their lives?
 - no. They closed their hearts to Jesus.

SHARING

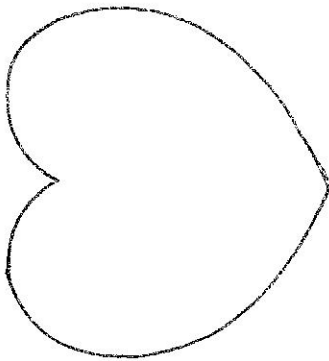
Show the pictures of the different people; encourage the children to look at each other and to notice their differences.

Would their parents notice if a different child took their place? Why?

Ask the children to sit in a circle, to hold hands, and to recite line by line:

We are all different.
 We look different.
 We feel different.
 We think differently.
 We walk differently.
 We talk differently.
 But we try to love each and everyone as they are.
 We do not pretend to be what we are not.
 We try to be true to ourselves.

Many people, though, began to mutter against Jesus, saying 'Who does he think he is? We know he is only the carpenter's son.' Jesus continued speaking.
 'The Kingdom of God is here. You must change your ways, turn from your selfishness.' Then the people got angry and threw him out of the synagogue.
 This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



ACTIVITIES

Give out the cut-outs.

On them have the children write or draw:

some of the people they know; and a prayer asking that they will never close their hearts to Jesus.

> Have the children act out the Gospel story, if possible with modern day equivalents.