

9. Remember that....



Theme: We gather as a community for collective worship that is **inspiring, invitational and inclusive,** reflecting the fact that we are a part of a diverse school family and the wider church community. This term, we are reflecting on the story of Moses and journeying with him as he leads God's people from Egypt and to the Promised Land. At the beginning of a new school year, it is always good to be back together as a community, and so we are using the story of Moses to help us to reflect on some important ideas from this story about being community together and about God, who looked after them. These stories can be found in the Bible, the Torah and the Qur'an, recognising Moses as a prophet and leader in all three of these Abrahamic traditions: these stories often generate some challenging questions about judgement and justice (especially from older pupils), so in these collective worship resources, we choose to emphasise the positive messages and outcomes e.g. God seeing and responding to the cruel treatment of the people, and being with his people. We are very grateful to FreeBibleImages for the use of their PowerPoint slides and images for many of the assemblies this term.

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How does this link to your school's Christian vision & values?

This week, the focus is on **remembering, and how God commanded the people to always 'Remember that....'** The timing also coincides with the marking of Remembrance (Armistice) Day, so we have included a short time of reflection to help you to do this. Adapt it for the ages of children you have.

Resources:

- The PowerPoint slides are numbered with a point in the script so you can find your way, and the parts in **bold** show you where to click on to activate the next slide or animation. There are slides to go with today's script, but you could quite easily use this collective worship without the PowerPoint if you preferred.
- The opening question 'Can an object help us to remember?' may need you to share some examples to get the discussion started: if you can find some that are meaningful in your classroom context, all the better!
- You will need some poppies for your reflection area

Gathering: Slides 1&2 Use this two-step gathering words for this term, or your usual greeting if you prefer. Why not invent some actions to make them extra memorable?!



- Leader: On the journey of life....
- Children: ...we are glad to be together in our school community.
- Leader: As we gather together....
- Children: ...may we learn from each other and hear from God.

Engaging:

- Slides 3-6: During this term, we are using some of the stories of God's people to help us as we think about our own school community. We're going to start our time together today with a question to talk about: 'What are some things that we remember?' [use the pictures to help you talk together but also talk about the things that pupils are currently being asked to remember in their school work]
- Slide 7: You might remember these two events from our story [show pictures] which Jewish people remember every year in the festivals of Passover and Sukkot. [remind children how if you need to] We're going to pause the story of Moses for today to think really deeply about some words that God said to the people: 'Remember that....'
 - Many times in the stories of God's people, the Israelites, he uses these words.
- **Slide 8:** As well as giving them the Ten Good Rules, God also spoke to the people about finding ways to help them to remember what had happened to them and **how they were slaves in Egypt**. (Deuteronomy 15:15)
- Slide 9: and how God had saved them.

Slide 10: Responding (words for worship) and words to wonder:

....I wonder why it was important for the people to 'remember'?....

....I wonder what remembering might have taught them about God?....

....I wonder what it's important for us to 'Remember that....?'....





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Slide 11: At this time of year, we remember as people across the world, using poppies. We remember that, long ago, soldiers all across the world, died to bring peace to our nations.

Slide 12: This is how the event was remembered in Guildford Cathedral to mark 100 years since peace came in 1918

Slide 13: We're going to remember now, in our own way – and be thankful for the peace that we enjoy here in Britain.

There are some really special words from a poem that are often spoken as part of the act of remembering:

At the going down of the sun and in the morning....

...we will remember them...

After a short time of silence [1 minute if you can make it!], I will invite you to say the words ,'We will remember them.' after I say the words 'At the going down of the sun and in the morning...'

Slide 14: I'm going to turn my thoughts into a prayer now. If you'd like to pray too, then find a way to make it your own....

Dear God

We are grateful for the peace that we enjoy – and for those who gave their lives to make it happen. Please help us always to 'remember them'.

Slide 15: In parts of the world where peace is scarce, we pray that there will be peacemakers – and an end to war.

Slide 16: Amen

Sending: Slide 17: Remind children of today's key message – to 'Remember that....'

Leader: As we leave this place and time and go into the day ahead...

All: May today's words help us to become a stronger community!

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To listen to / sing:

<u>Every Step (Official Lyric Video) - Nick & Becky Drake - YouTube</u> Listen or join in to this Christian song that, like God's people, helps Christians remember that God is with them every step they take.

Or if you prefer, use God is watching over you (AAOS)



Reflective activity: 'Remember that.....'

Put some poppies from your collection box in your reflection area [don't forget to donate first!] or cut poppy shapes out of red paper.

Children think about something that they think it's really important to 'Remember that....', which could link to a personal reflection or as a reminder that 'We will remember them...'



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Remember that.....



Our theme this week focuses on God's command for his people to 'Remember that....'



Why is it important that we 'remember'?
What important things do you always 'remember'?



Take a poppy shape and on the petals, write some words to help you to 'Remember that....'

