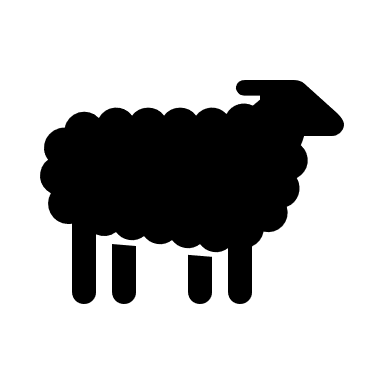
**7. Feed my sheep….**



*There is an accompanying PowerPoint for this assembly*

|  |
| --- |
| **Age range:** Primary |
| **Theme:** This term, we are thinking about leaders, leading and following, and now continue our theme looking at leaders from across the world and across history, to inspire us to be better leaders – and followers! – ourselves. We will look at wise words and wise lives, as well as use some key religious dates on the calendar to connect us with stories about leaders. This week, the focus is on the story of Peter: how he was forgiven by Jesus, and given the responsibility of being the first leader of the brand new Church, linking with the story of Pentecost from last week. |
| **DiamondHow does this link to your school’s Christian vision & values?**  This week, we are linking to the values of forgiveness and restoration |
| **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 is another join-in story in this week’s materials.** * **Reflective activity:** this week, you’ll need an unopened pack of baby wipes to put into your reflective area to help children to think, reflect or pray. |
| Door Open**Gathering:**   * **Slide 1:** This term, we are thinking about leading, leaders, and followers, so let’s start as we always do…. * **Slide 2:** Use these new gathering words for this term, or your usual greeting if you prefer. The greeting comes with BSL signing, you can view the demos using links under the slide.   **Leader:** As we share these stories of leaders…  **ALL:** May we follow their example in **thoughts** and **words** and **actions**. |
| Puzzle**Engaging:**   * **Slide 3:**I wonder what qualities you think a good leader needs? *[talk together. You might want to keep this list to refer to or add to in the coming weeks.]* * **Slide 4:** We’re going to share together a story about one of Jesus’ disciples – Peter – who was part of the story we heard last week, about the arrival of God’s Holy Spirit. It’s got some parts for you to join in with: when you hear me say the words ‘Oh no, he didn’t!’ I’d like you to say **‘Oh yes he did!’** in response *[use script & slides 5-13, encouraging children to join in.]* * **Slide 14:** Then talk together (there will be reflective wondering later as well): **I wonder why Jesus asked Peter the same question three times?... I wonder what Jesus meant by ‘take care of my sheep’, and whether Peter did what Jesus asked?....** * Well, you’ll be glad to know that he did! The ‘sheep’ that Jesus talked about were the very first Church, and after the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Peter did just what Jesus had asked him to, and cared for them as if they were his own family. He became the very first – and some say the greatest – leader of the Church. |
| Thought bubble**Slide 15: Responding (words for worship):**  **….so in the stillness of this moment, let’s spend some time thinking together…..**  …we’ve heard Peter’s story and how Jesus gave him a second chance…  **….I wonder what you think Peter learned from his mistakes?....**  **….or what you think we learn from ours?....**  **….I wonder what this story might show us about being a leader?....**  **….I wonder what this story teaches us about the importance of forgiveness?....**  **Slide 16:** Christians often pray a prayer that Jesus taught his disciples – a prayer that Peter himself would have prayed, called the Lord’s Prayer. Listen to these words from it, about forgiveness:  **Forgive us for the wrong things we do, as we forgive people when they do wrong to us.**  It’s a reminder to Christians that because God has forgiven them, they should forgive others. I’m going to use this idea to help us to pray now. You might just want to listen, or find some way to make the prayer your own….  **Slide 17: Prayer**  **Dear God, who is forgiving,**  **Thank you for the story of Peter, and what it shows us about being forgiven.**  **Thank you that he got a second chance, even when he let his friends down.**  **Help us to be like Peter, to learn from our mistakes and to forgive, as we have been forgiven.**  **Slide 18: Amen** |
| **Sending: Slide 19**  **Leader:** As we leave this place and time and go into the day ahead…  **All:** ….**may we be forgiving.** |
| **To listen to / sing:**  [Together](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xiygQUPfCGI) (NBD) |
| **\*\*Reflective activity:**  Put a cleaning cloth in your reflective area this week, and the card from p.4. The wipes are a symbol for times when we need to be forgiven or to forgive others when we have ‘messed up.’ |

**A chance to start again**

**Slide 5:** Peter had a fierce temper that often got him into trouble.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 6:** In the Garden of Gethsemane, the night before Jesus died, Peter had cut off a soldier’s ear with his sword, then watched as the soldiers led Jesus away, without saying a word!

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 7:** Jesus had told him at supper that night that before the morning cock crowed, Peter would say he didn’t know Jesus, not once, not twice, but three times!

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 8:** But as Jesus stood on trial, it happened just as Jesus said it would. Three times, people said to Peter ‘You were one of his friends, weren’t you?’ And all three times, Peter said ‘I don’t know who you mean!’

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 9:** Then as the cock crowed with the dawn, Peter remembered what Jesus had said and left, weeping, with his heart broken.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 10:** But as we know from the Easter story, Jesus died, and rose again!

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 11:** So Peter was given a second chance, on a beach with a fishy breakfast, cooked on the fire by Jesus himself!

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 12:** After breakfast, Jesus sat down next to Peter. ‘Do you love me, Peter?’ Jesus asked. ‘Of course I do!’ Peter replied. ‘Then take care of my lambs’ Jesus said.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

Again Jesus asked ‘Peter do you love me?’ Thinking that perhaps Jesus hadn’t heard him, Peter replied ‘You know I do!’ ‘Take care of my sheep’ Jesus said.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

But then Jesus asked a THIRD time ‘Peter, do you love me?’ and Peter felt a little hurt that Jesus needed to ask three times. ‘Lord, you know everything and you know that I love you!’ ‘Then feed my sheep’ Jesus asked him.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

**Slide 13:** And so, despite the many times that Peter had let Jesus down, Jesus gave him a brand new start.

*Oh no he didn’t!* **Oh yes he did!**

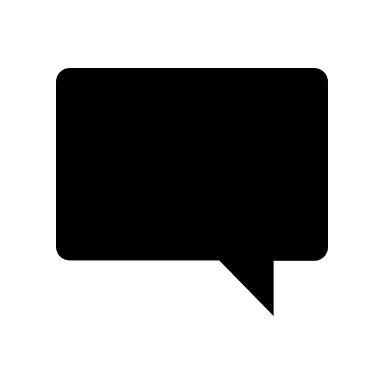
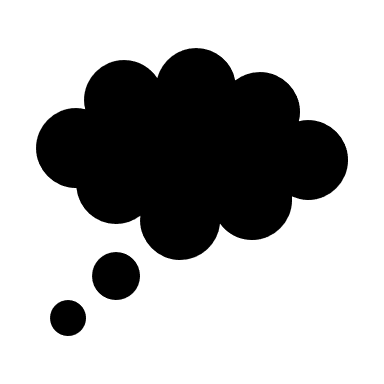


***Cloths clean up mess! Sometimes our lives get messy too. Jesus gave Peter a chance to start again after he’d ‘messed up’.***

**Hold the cloth in your hands. Spend a few moments thinking about your friends and your family. Is there anyone who needs you to give them a second chance? Or maybe someone who needs you to say ‘sorry’ to them?**

**Say a quiet prayer if you’d like to…**

***(…don't forget to say sorry & be sorry too!)***

******