



# 9. Say the right thing

Age range: Primary

**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 begin a series of themes based on wise words – all of them from the Bible, all of them ancient advice about how to live, but in our modern world, they often sound surprisingly up to date! We are linking words from King Solomon’s book of Proverbs to stories from the life of Jesus, leading up to Easter. Today, we learn what Jesus does when faced with a very tricky situation – and see his wisdom in the way he treats a woman brought to him for judgement.



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

Throughout this term, we encourage you to link each week’s collective worship to your school vision – and the way that you live this out through your values. Most of the themes should easily allow for this.

### 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.
- **You’ll need to make some game show type cards (‘Call My Bluff’ style, for those of you old enough to remember!), with the situation printed on. You could think of some common situations you’ve experienced in school where children have perhaps made wrong choices and said things that have hurt others, to then encourage them to think of an alternative. Try to choose some situations where children might have to challenge the behaviours or attitudes of the children in the ‘scenario’ – such as witnessing bullying, for example. The ‘right thing’ to say is not always the easy option, and it’s important to discuss this with children. There are some suggestions to print out on p. 3**
- Thank you once again to FreeBibleImages for the version of the story used in this script.
- **Reflective prayer activity:** You will need a tray of sand for the reflective activity this week.

### Gathering:

**Slide 1:** Use our new gathering words. Why not invent your own actions to accompany them?



- **Leader: We are here together**
- **Children: With ears ready to hear and hands ready to serve.**
- **All: May we be wise in all our actions today.**

### Engaging:

**Slide 2:** Let’s begin our time with today’s wise words.....

**Slide 3:** ‘Saying the right thing at the right time brings joy.’ I wonder what you think this means? *[talk together]* I’ve got a game to help us to see what this looks like in real life – it’s very simple and is called.....

**Slide 4:** Game – ‘Say the right thing!’ [use printed cards from p. 3. There are slides to accompany each scenario, but if you want to play the game without a screen, skip slides 5-10]



**Slide 11:** As we’ve just discovered, most of the time, we really do know what the ‘right thing’ to say is, but sometimes in real life, it doesn’t seem quite as easy. Sometimes we might think ‘Oh well, someone else will do that or say that’ – and so we don’t. Other times, we might not feel brave enough to say something, even when we know what we should do. During this time, leading up to Easter, we are exploring some stories about Jesus to find out how he lived out our Wise Words and to help us to see what this might mean for us in our own lives and communities. So let’s do that now....

**Slide 12:** Jesus was often to be found teaching people in the temple.

**Slide 13:** One day some of the leaders in Jerusalem brought a woman to Jesus and said to him ‘Teacher! We found this woman doing something that is against the law. Should we punish her as the law of Moses says we should?’ The men were clearly very angry, and wanted to punish her.

**Slide 14:** But Jesus looked at the woman’s face and saw how very frightened she was – and decided to do something, even though he knew it would probably make the leaders very cross.

**Slide 15:** He bent down and began to draw in the dust on the ground.

**Slide 16:** Then he said to the men ‘If any of you can honestly say that you have never done anything wrong in your lives, then go ahead and punish this woman for what she has done.’ One by one, the men walked away.

**Slide 17:** When the last one had gone, Jesus looked at the woman and said to her ‘You are forgiven for what you did. Now go and live a new life.’



**Slide 18: Responding and words for worship / questions to talk about....**



Let's wonder together.....I wonder how the woman felt, being brought to Jesus as she was...

....I wonder how she felt when she heard what Jesus said to the leaders?....

....I wonder what difference Jesus' words made to the rest of her life?....

....I wonder what we might learn from this story about saying the right thing?....

[leave some time for discussion and/or quiet reflection here]

**Slide 19: Prayer**

*I'm going to use some words with a response for anyone who would like to pray too: your words are 'We will say the right thing.'*

**Slide 20:** When we see someone in need, **'We will say the right thing.'**

**Slide 21:** When we see something unfair, **'We will say the right thing.'**

**Slide 22:** In our school today, **'We will say the right thing.'**

**Slide 23: Amen**

**Sending: Slide 24**

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

**All:** May today's words help us to make wise choices.



**To listen to / sing:**

[The Golden Rule](#) (NBD)

[Chain of love](#) (AAOS)



**Reflective prayer activity:**

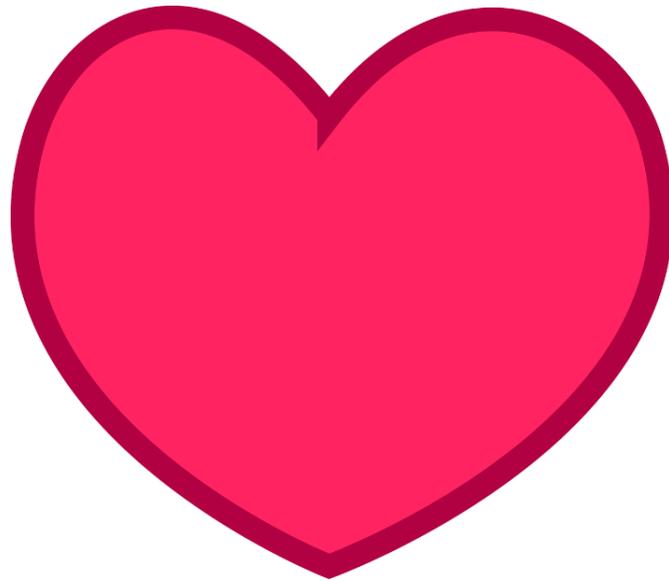
Provide a tray of sand in your reflective area.

Write in the tray of sand what you think Jesus wrote.... Or some words that you think are the 'right words' to say



<p><b>A new child starts in your class.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>	<p><b>Your teacher has had a really busy morning and has lots of jobs to get through at lunchtime.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>	<p><b>Someone is sitting all alone at playtime, waiting on the friendship bench.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>
<p><b>Dad is tired, he's cooking dinner and trying to do jobs around the kitchen at the same time.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>	<p><b>You see a child from another class being teased.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>	<p><b>Another child in your group is having trouble with some new work.</b></p> <p><b><i>What's the 'right thing' to say?</i></b></p>





***“Whenever you are able, do good to people who need help.”***



**Think about a time when you needed help. How did it feel when help came?**



**Talk together about people who might need our help today....**



**Write your ideas on a heart and lay it in the basket. You might want to pray as you do this. No go out and keep your eyes open for the opportunity to do good!**

