



Collective Worship, Autumn Term 2024: The Topsy-Turvy, 'How-to-Be'-at(t)itudes

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. At the beginning of a new school year, it is always good to help pupils to re-engage (or engage for the first time!) with your school's vision and values, so please ensure that you do this each week using the suggestions in each of the scripts. This term, we are reflecting on some of Jesus' words in the 'Sermon on the Mount', containing the statements known as the 'Beatitudes' which set out the topsy-turvy manifesto of God's Kingdom. We reflect on how these ideas might help to shape our school community life in the way that we try to treat each other. The 'how-to-be-at(t)itudes' also line up with significant calendar events in this term, such as Harvest and Remembrance, and even towards Christmas, when we will celebrate the topsy-turviness of the story of how God came to earth as a tiny baby through some prophecies, including Mary's own song of worship on hearing the news from Angel Gabriel.

Week	Theme	Details / follow-up	Bible content	Reflection ideas	Song**
1 (3/9)	In our school.....	Your school 'manifesto'. If you're happy....clap your hands!	Your vision reference	Draw around hand & write what makes you happy	School choice / Our school (BBC)
2 (9/9)	The Lesson	The story of the Sermon on the Mount	Matthew 5-7	How can we show our school's values in action?	The Kindness Song or Let's be kind (NBD)
3 (16/9)	Don't Worry	'Look at the birds....'	Matthew 6:25-34	Stone 'prayers': hold it in your hand, then give your worry away (to God)	God is watching (BBC)
4 (23/9)	Topsy-Turvy values	Introduction to the 'How-to-be'-at(t)itudes	Matthew 5:1-12	'Crown' reflections: 'forgotten' people	Together (NBD)
5 (30/9)	Provision / Hope	Connection with HARVEST - God gives good gifts	Matthew 5:3	Give to others: SHARE	Harvest songs (school choice)
6 (7/10)	Humility	Story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector	Matthew 5:5	Use 'humility' prayer station ideas	Build up (BBC) I'll hold on (POP UK)
7 (14/10)	Justice	'Hunger & thirst for justice' (link to Matthew 25)	Matthew 5:6	Scales of fairness - balance the scales with your ideas	Chain of love or When I needed a neighbour (BBC)
8 (21/10)	Forgiveness	Jesus and the woman (story used Spring 24)	Matthew 5:7	Let it go... with fizzy tablets!	The Kindness Song or Let's be kind (NBD)
HALF TERM					
9 (4/11)	Wisdom	Seeing with God's eyes (Zacchaeus)	Matthew 5:8 / Luke 19:1-9	Empty glasses frames - who will you try to 'see differently' this week?	The Kindness Song or Let's be kind (NBD)
10 (11/11)	Compassion	Blessed are those who mourn.... (Remembrance)	Matthew 5:4	We will remember them...glass beads on a cloth (red / blue?)	Excerpts from The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins*
11 (18/11)	Peace	Blessed are those who work for peace	Matthew 5:9	Zips reflections: reconciliation	Peace is flowing (BBC)
12 (25/11)	Joy	The How-to-be-at(t)itudes bring good rewards	Matthew 5:12a	Make bunting of joy!	Give me oil in my lamp (joy in my heart!)(BBC)

13 (2/12)	Advent 1	An upside-down kingdom - Mary's story & song	Luke 1:46-55	Look for the joyful words in your Nativity / Christmas songs	The Virgin Mary had a baby boy (AAOS)
14 (9/12)	Advent 2	An upside-down kingdom - light in the darkness	Philippians 2:15	Shine like lights - how will you be a light this week?	City on a hill (with actions) (NBD) Walking in the light (POP UK)
15 (16/12)	Advent 3	A story for everyone (Hi HO, Hi HO, to Bethlehem we go!')	Shepherds & Wise Men	Choose your favourite Christmas book / poem to share with others	The angels knew (NBD)

* This version of Karl Jenkins, 'The Armed Man' was recorded during COVID, by an online choir. Select a section that you like!

****Song references:** BBC - BBC resources, links to online version; NBD - Nick & Becky Drake songs; POP UK are a new resource, free if you register

Matthew 5:3-12 (International Children's Bible)

"Those people who know they have great spiritual needs are happy. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

⁴ Those who are sad now are happy. God will comfort them.

⁵ Those who are humble are happy. The earth will belong to them.

⁶ Those who want to do right more than anything else are happy. God will fully satisfy them.

⁷ Those who give mercy to others are happy. Mercy will be given to them.

⁸ Those who are pure in their thinking are happy. They will be with God.

⁹ Those who work to bring peace are happy. God will call them his children.

¹⁰ Those who are treated badly for doing good are happy. The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.....¹² Rejoice and be glad. You have a great reward waiting for you in heaven.....