ST LAWRENCE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL RE LEARNING JOURNEY

UNIT: Community – Kingdom of God TERM: Spring 1

YEAR GROUP: 5 - Sycamore CONCEPT: Conflict

I WONDER QUESTION			
How would I make the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth?			
END OF UNIT OUTCOME	**(Linked to I wonder question)** Write own manifesto - If I was ruler of the world, I would….		
OBJECTIVES	• Explain connections between biblical texts and the Kingdom of God • Consider different possible meanings for biblical texts studied • Make connections between belief in Kingdom of God and how Christians put their belief into practice Relate Christian's beliefs about God's Kingdom to their own life		
LESSON 1 QUESTION	**What problems does our world face today?**		
KEY KNOWLEDGE	Many Christians try to extend the Kingdom of God by challenging unjust social structures in their locality and in the world. Many people say the point of our lives is to make the world a better place, to leave it better than we found it. The Kingdom of God is, in essence, where God rules — not a geographical territory, but in human hearts and minds, lives and communities. Jesus' key teaching in the first three Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) is that he is beginning a kingdom where God's rule of love, forgiveness and inclusion will grow. The Gospels look forward to a time when this kingdom will spread across the Earth like yeast through a lump of dough, and they picture people finding the kingdom for themselves like a trader who comes across one amazing pearl and gives up everything to get it. Jesus compares God's Kingdom to a festival, a party, a treasure, a secret, a seed that grows, a harvest, and a wedding.		
RICH TASK	Explore I wonder question to identify prior knowledge. Recap on the big story, sorting the core concepts along the frieze. Look at the Kingdom of God part of the frieze. What do they notice / see? Annotate and explain linking to bible stories they know. List and rank some of the worst problems we face in the world today (for example, hunger, hatred, war and violence, cruelty to children, lack of love, lack of healthcare, poverty…) DISCUSSION: Can you think of ways people have tried to improve these issues? How could we make the world a better place in 50 years' time?		
KEY VOCABULARY	unjust social structure poverty	**RESOURCES**	Frieze panels Concept cards
LESSON 2 QUESTION	**What does the Lord's Prayer teach us about Heaven?**		
KEY KNOWLEDGE	Christians think Jesus came to Earth to get people into Heaven and to make the world more like Heaven. Jesus' 'Kingdom of God' parables and their meanings explore more about these ideas. For Christians, Heaven is a place full of love, with no tears: people do what God wants. Earth is not presently like this. Christians use these texts to		

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	remind themselves of the way the world is supposed to be, and to reflect on how careful they must be not to forget that they are living in God's Kingdom. Many might say they find it easier not to let God rule in their lives, as Jesus' example shows that they may well end up in conflict with others. Christians might study the parables in private Bible reading and prayer, or in prayer groups, or listen to a sermon in church. They would probably agree that the point is not just to listen, but to act.		
RICH TASK	Retrieval practice activity – Cops and robbers of things in the Kingdom of God frieze panel. Discuss in pairs: "Christians think Jesus came to Earth to get people into Heaven, or to make the world more like Heaven?" What do you think? One or both? What do Christians believe? *Christians believe both.* Look at the Lord's Prayer – what does it mean? Unpick meaning and key vocabulary. Explore 'Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven'. This part of the prayer asks that earth will become more like Heaven. Ask pupils to list ten things found on Earth, which would not be found in Heaven. (Make links to ideas about the Fall and sin from the Bible's 'big story') Rewrite Lord's Prayer into simpler language for Year 1. Jesus told many stories that start: 'The Kingdom of Heaven is like …' What is the Kingdom of God to you? Draw a picture to make a page from a book illustrating the simplified Lord's Prayer.		
KEY VOCABULARY	art hallowed thy will trespasses temptation deliver thine amen	**RESOURCES**	The Lord's prayer
LESSON 3 QUESTION	**What do the parables tell us about Heaven?**		
KEY KNOWLEDGE	Jesus told many parables about the Kingdom of God. These suggest that God's rule has begun, through the life, teaching and example of Jesus, and subsequently through the lives of Christians who live in obedience to God. The Kingdom is compared to a feast where all are invited to join in. Not everyone chooses to do so. JESUS' PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM The four Gospels record over 50 parables — stories Jesus uses to make a key point or to subvert a conversation. They are often sharply targeted at hypocrisy, they carry big ideas about God, faith and grace, and they stick in the mind. Many of the parables begin 'The Kingdom of God is like…' and use figurative, metaphorical or imaginative ideas to open up Jesus' teaching about how to live a life following God. THE FEAST: LUKE 14:12–24 This parable is certainly about		

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<table>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="3">inclusivity. The rich and well-fed exclude themselves from the feast, so the downtrodden and outcast are brought in. Luke's Gospel is a long series of 'short stories of inclusion'. Here, Jesus implies a welcome to anyone not too proud to join the feast of the Kingdom of God. But there are always shades of meaning in the parables, and they are open to different responses and interpretations. One way of looking at it might include the idea that, for the audience at the time, the first guests to be invited are the religious leaders of Israel; the poor and the lame represent the outcasts of Israel; and the people from the highways represent the Gentiles — people who were not Jewish — so that the Kingdom is open to them too. This is a challenge for his audience, although the 'big story' of the Bible always said that Israel was to attract other nations to God. Here, the master's generosity is matched by his severity too — the parable suggests that there will come a time when the invitations will stop. In the light of this, people's reasons for refusing to join the feast and accept God's generous invitation look rather feeble. The challenge for Christians today is to work out what this might mean to them in the twenty-first century: with whom do they identify? Have they received an invitation? Have they accepted the invitation, or are they putting up excuses…</td></tr>
<tr><td>RICH TASK</td><td colspan="3">Retrieval practice activity – As a table can we write the Lord's Prayer from memory.
Jesus told lots of stories that start: 'The Kingdom of Heaven is like …'
What is the Kingdom of God according to this parable?
The Feast: Luke 14:12–24. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEbwiQvo5k4
Read/watch this story.
DISCUSS: who was Jesus talking to, why did he tell this story, and what do they think Jesus meant?
• Is the feast Heaven, or is it a banquet on Earth?
• Is the man giving the feast similar to God, or to Jesus?
• Why do the rich and successful people make excuses?
• When Jesus came to Earth, it was not the priests or the holy, religious people who welcomed him, but the common people and the outsiders: how does this connect to the parable?
• Was Jesus teaching that everyone is welcome if they want to be part of his Kingdom?
• Is Heaven more like a feast or a party than anything else?
• How would the different people in his audience feel about the story?
In small groups, create a still picture of a part of the story you think best illustrate how the parable links to Heaven and discuss.
If this is a 'parable of the Kingdom', what kind of king is Jesus? Use RS1 as prompt</td></tr>
<tr><td>KEY VOCABULARY</td><td>parable
feast
banquet</td><td>RESOURCES</td><td>YouTube clip
Illustrated class bible
The Feast illustration
RS1</td></tr>
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LESSON 4 QUESTION	**What do people believe Jesus wanted Heaven to be like?**		
KEY KNOWLEDGE	For Christians today, across the world, being a member of the community of the Kingdom of God is a precious gift, and a challenge: living out the values of the Kingdom of God is the key challenge of being a disciple of Jesus, loving God and loving our neighbour. There is no space here for hypocrisy, selfishness or personal pride. Instead, generosity, compassion, love even for enemies, and a joyful willingness to put others ahead of one's own interests is the rule. Unsurprisingly, the Christian community often fails to live up to this vision, and can be as divisive, exclusive and lacking in love as any human community. The offer of forgiveness through Jesus, and the gift of the Holy Spirit, give Christians hope that God can help them to be more loving and faithful.		
RICH TASK	Retrieval practice activity – In pairs order the story of the Feast If Christians believe that Jesus is a king, then what would his kingdom be like? List features of the world as it is (creative, energetic, fast, diverse, unequal, polluted, violent and so on), and compare with the kind of world that Jesus was seeking, using evidence from the stories and texts known. What kinds of things would Jesus want to change? Compare two songs Christians use to express the kind of Kingdom Jesus wanted: 'Lord of the Dance' and 'Down to Earth'. REND COLLECTIVE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbdJXKqVgtg What do the songs say about the type of king Jesus intended to be, and what his kingdom would be like? In pairs write a short verse/chorus describing what kind of king Jesus might be and what type of kingdom he would want.		
KEY VOCABULARY	scribe Pharisee lame down to earth	**RESOURCES**	Lord of the Dance Down to Earth RS 2 and 3
LESSON 5 QUESTION	**How would I make the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth?**		
KEY KNOWLEDGE	Revision of key knowledge from previous lessons – what conclusions did we come to after reflecting on our lesson questions? There is something Utopian about Jesus' teaching and his idea of the kingdom of God. This work invites pupils to connect their own vision of the world's best future with the idea of God's Kingdom.		
END OF UNIT OUTCOME	Explore ways in which Christians try to bring the Kingdom of God on Earth. Imagine that the local Christian communities are going to try to do more to make the world a better place to 'follow King Jesus'. • Project ideas could be: • 1. Helping people in prison. 2. An arts and music project for the local community. 3. Helping children who are in trouble. 4. Special events for families to enjoy together.		

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	6. A project to give refugees a better chance in life. 7. Raising funds to send aid for people in a part of the world. 8. A project to reduce racism. 9. A party for people in the local area from all religions. 10. Providing for children who haven't got enough money to go on holiday. Think about why might 'King Jesus' think these are good ideas? What are some of the needs in our local area - not just for Christians - organise in diamond 10 and justify choices. Discuss what actions would make our local community a better place, what would we choose do implement and why. I wonder … what I could do to make the Earth more like Heaven? Using these ideas as prompts, write manifesto 'If I were King/Queen of the world, I would….' Ensuring ideas included links to ideas from previous lessons		
KEY VOCABULARY	Utopian manifesto	**RESOURCES**	Post its