

**GOSPEL
RESOURCES**

**GOOD
NEWS**



UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY

UPPER KEY STAGE 2/2B.5

TEXT IMPACT CONNECTIONS

2B.5 GOSPEL RESOURCE SHEET 1:

15 THINGS JESUS SAID IN THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. (NIV)

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (NIV)

So when you offer your gift to God at the altar, and you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there at the altar. Go and make peace with him. Then come and offer your gift. (ICB)

...Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. If you do this, you will be true children of your Father in heaven. He causes the sun to rise on good people and on evil people, and he sends rain to those who do right and to those who do wrong. (NCV)

When you give to the poor, don't be like the hypocrites. ... [W]hen you give to the poor, don't let anyone know what you are doing. Your giving should be done in secret. Your Father can see what is done in secret, and he will reward you. (NCV)

When you pray, don't talk on and on as people do who don't know God. They think God likes to hear long prayers. Don't be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask. (NCV)

Don't store treasures for yourselves here on earth ... But store your treasures in heaven where they cannot be destroyed by moths or rust and where thieves cannot break in and steal them. Your heart will be where your treasure is. (NCV)

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. (NIV)

So I tell you, don't worry about the food or drink you need to live ... Life is more than food ... Look at the birds in the air. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, but your heavenly Father feeds them. And you know that you are worth much more than the birds. (NCV)

And why do you worry about clothes? Look at the flowers in the field. See how they grow. They don't work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that even [King] Solomon with his riches was not dressed as beautifully as one of these flowers. (ICB)

The thing you should want most is God's kingdom and doing what God wants. Then all these other things you need will be given to you. So don't worry about tomorrow. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Tomorrow will have its own worries. (ICB)

Don't judge other people, and you will not be judged. You will be judged in the same way that you judge others. (ICB)

Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened for you. Everyone who asks will receive. The one who searches will find, and for the one who knocks, the door will be opened. (GW)

Do to others what you want them to do to you. This is the meaning of the law of Moses and the teaching of the prophets. (NCV)

Not all those who say 'You are our Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven. The only people who will enter the kingdom of heaven are those who do what my Father in heaven wants. (NCV)

2B.5 GOSPEL RESOURCE SHEET 2: RESPONDING TO JESUS' HEALING STORIES

Christians interpret the Bible differently. Here are four responses to the miracle stories.

1

Jesus was a miracle-worker because he was God in the flesh. Christians today should also pray for healing miracles – Jesus is still alive and God is the same today as he was then. He can heal, and he does too.

2

Jesus was a miracle-worker and the son of God, so we should worship him. However, healing can take place through applying modern medicine too – and that is another way God heals today. Prayer is important, but so is using our skills and knowledge.

3

The stories of Jesus' miracles are not to be taken literally: the writers wanted to show how special Jesus was. Today we need to look for a spiritual meaning rather than a literal one. Here, Jesus shows that anyone can come to Jesus and be given new spiritual life.

4

Jesus did not heal everyone who was ill in Galilee when he was on Earth. Not everyone is healed when Christians pray – illness and dying are part of life. Jesus does promise the spiritual healing that forgiveness can bring – healing a person's relationship with God.

Imagine two Christians talking about the story of the healing of the centurion's servant (**Luke 7:1-10**). They want to try to put Jesus' good news into action in the world today. How should they do that?!

SKETCH OUT THEIR CONVERSATION, TAKING TWO OF THE VIEWPOINTS GIVEN ABOVE

Here are some suggestions about the meaning of this story to include in the conversation:

- *Jesus could heal anyone because he was God, and so...*
- *Faith is needed for healing, and so...*
- *Jesus wasn't prejudiced against Romans or servants, and so...*
- *Christians today can believe in miracles because...*
- *When someone is ill, asking Jesus for help (by praying) is important as well as medicine because...*
- *God can heal today, and often he uses our medical skills because...*
- *Prayer for healing does not seem to work for many people. This does not mean... This might mean...*
- *Spiritual healing includes forgiveness, bringing people back into a relationship with God. This is important because...*
- *I think this means we should...*
- *Setting up a clinic to serve the poorest would mean that...*

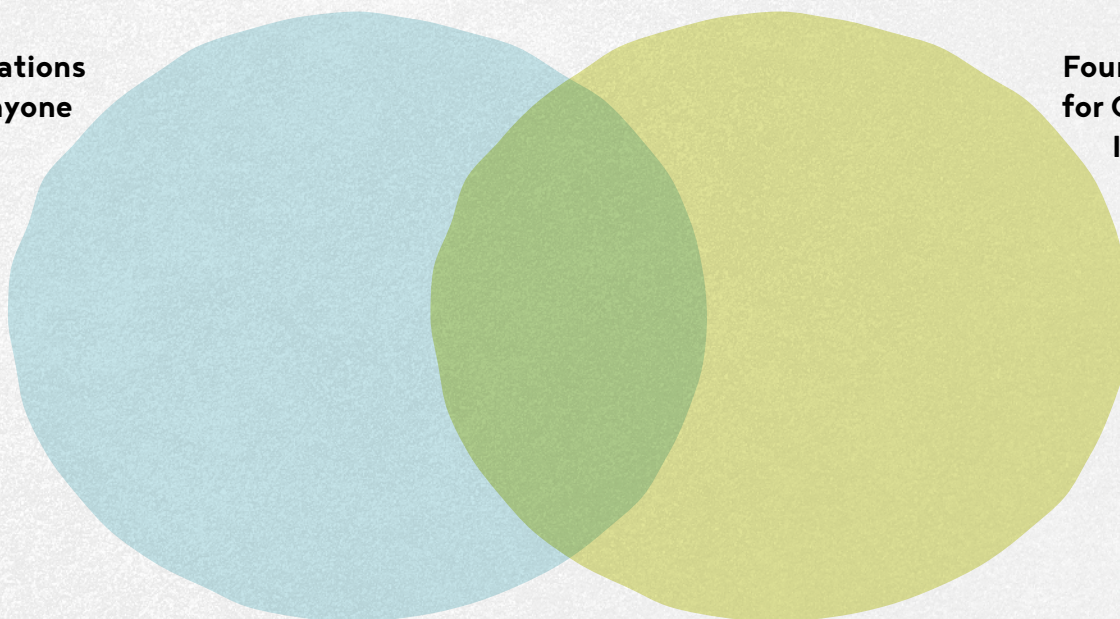
2B.5 GOSPEL RESOURCE SHEET 3: FOUNDATIONS FOR LIVING

The parable of the two builders (Matthew 7:24–27) teaches that Christians should build their lives on the words of Jesus.

Take the suggestions in the boxes below and add your own, to show the kinds of things that guide people in deciding how to live. Write them in a Venn diagram according to whether you think they are helpful in building foundations for anyone, or foundations for Christians. You may think some are not at all helpful, and should go in the bin!

**Foundations
for anyone**

**Foundations
for Christian
living**



Trusting God

TV adverts

Reading

Learning

Being kind

Fashion

Money

Following Jesus

X-box

Instagram

Maths

Praying

Worshipping God

Telling people
about Jesus

Being part of the
Christian community

Treating others as you
would like to be treated

Copying people
around you

Trying to please God

Not judging

Not worrying

Thinking about what
really matters

2B.5 GOSPEL RESOURCE SHEET 4: PETER AND JESUS

BETRAYAL AND RESTORATION

In pairs, talk about what the story is about, and mark your responses on the continuum lines.

1. The story is mainly about:

Lying	←————→	Breakfast
Love	←————→	Trust
Betrayal	←————→	Forgiveness
Fear	←————→	Gentleness
Faith	←————→	Doubt

2. Who was hurt, and who was hurt most? Why?

3. Who repaired the hurt? How?

4. What does the story teach about forgiveness?

God will always forgive. no matter what	←————→	You have to be sorry before forgiveness can happen
---	--------	--

5. What effect do you think this has on Peter, as he takes on the leadership of the early Christian Church? Why? (It is believed that Peter was crucified upside down, some years later, after spreading the teachings of Jesus to Rome.)

2B.5 GOSPEL RESOURCE SHEET 5: JESUS GETS ANGRY IN THE TEMPLE COURTS

Christians interpret the story of Jesus overturning the moneylenders' tables in different ways. They are happy for stories to have multiple meanings, so use the cards below to decide what you think are the most likely three meanings, and three that are less likely. Explain why, making links with the other Gospel passages you have studied.

Prayer matters more than sacrifice.

God hates it when worship is about keeping a load of rules, instead of being about love and justice.

God is the God of all people: charging for sacrificial animals stops pilgrims coming to God.

Jewish people have reached God by going to the Temple to worship. Now they can come to God through Jesus.

The court of the Gentiles was a place of prayer for non-Jewish people to worship God. The moneylenders ignored that so that they could make money.

Cheating people is against God's Law and should be challenged.

Jesus was an angry man.

Worshipping God matters more than making money.

Jesus' disciples had their own moneylending business and didn't want the competition.