

3.2 Rescue operation

Based on Episode 3: Leviathan



Learning objectives:

- To know how God rescued Peter from prison
- To understand that God sometimes rescues people from seemingly impossible situations

RE Links:

- England:** 2c) *discuss their own and others' views of religious truth and belief, expressing their own ideas*
- Isle of Man:** 3F) *What difference does faith make? How does faith affect the way we behave?*
5F) *How do the beliefs of Christians influence their actions? What influences our decision making? (QCA – 5D)*
- Northern Ireland:** *The Christian Church: Beginning and Growth*
- Scotland:** *RM 2-01b Through exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, I am increasing my knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs*
Scotland Roman Catholic: RERC 2-03a I can examine God's relationship with myself and others. I have reflected on how the gift of faith can permeate my whole being
- Wales:** *ways in which religion can change people's lives and/or attitudes*

Stimulus material:

Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 3: *Leviathan. This lesson is based on the second half of the episode from 12.25 mins, when Sollie has shown Macky his plan to sink the ship.*

Bible reference for the main story:

God releases Peter from Prison
Acts 12:1-17

Other resources required:

Copies of Worksheet 3.2a (enough for one between groups of approximately four pupils)
Copies of Worksheet 3.2b (one per pupil)

Introduction:

Show *Friends and Heroes* DVD Episode 3: *Leviathan* from 12.25 mins to 14.48 mins where Macky and Samuel are captured and put in jail on board *Leviathan*.

Recap the story of the episode either using questioning if the pupils have watched the first half of the episode or by sharing the following information: An enormous warship called *Leviathan* is about to go from Alexandria to Galilee to kill the rebels (*Friends of Jesus*) who live there. Sollie has the bright idea of damaging the catapult on *Leviathan* so that it can be used to sink the warship.

The Romans saw Macky and Samuel trespassing on the ship, thought they were thieves and put them in jail on board *Leviathan*. Macky and Samuel were deliberately damaging something that did not belong to them but they believed that what they were doing was right.

Give pupils copies of Worksheet 3.2a – statements about the story and about prison. Ask the pupils to discuss the statements in small groups and decide whether they agree or disagree with each one. Work your way round the groups, helping them to identify a range of opinions about each statement.

Activities:

Ask the pupils the following questions:

- How will Macky and Samuel be feeling now they are in prison?
- What about Sollie?

Draw out the idea that they must all feel that they are facing an impossible situation. Tell the pupils that we all sometimes feel as though we have impossible situations to face, maybe with something that's happening at home or school. Christians believe that God can help them to cope with impossible situations. Sometimes he rescues people from their situation and sometimes he gives them the strength to cope. Explain that we will see an example of someone being rescued from a difficult situation in today's Bible story.

Watch the rest of the episode from 14.48 mins to the end.

- Why did Samuel tell Macky the story about Peter's escape from prison? (to encourage Macky that there is always hope, even when a situation may seem hopeless)

Explain that Christians don't always get rescued from difficult situations – God isn't like a magic wand, but he does help people in different ways. On this occasion God needed Peter to continue to work for him, so he rescued him.

- What was Peter's response to being freed from prison? Did he run away and hide so he wouldn't be captured again? (no, he continued to tell the stories about Jesus)

Using Worksheet 3.2b as a basis, work with the pupils to generate words and phrases to describe Peter's experience and feelings in prison, and his rescue. Ask the pupils to use Worksheet 3.2b to create their own poem about Peter's experience.

Reflection / Personal search / Response:

Ask a number of pupils to read just the first verse of their poem.

- How do the words make us feel?

Choose some different pupils to read the second verse of their poem.

- How do our feelings change?

Remind the pupils that situations that seem impossible can change very quickly. When we are stuck in a difficult situation we need to look to other people to help us out.

We have a song about God releasing Peter from prison called 'There is Always Hope'. You can add music and Song Time activities to your lesson using our music CD, What about Love? : Bible songs inspired by Friends and Heroes Series 1. Click here to learn more:

www.friendsandheroes.com/songtime

Assessment / reporting:

Can pupils make the link between Macky and Peter's situation?

How does Sollie help Claxus? Does Sollie help to rescue him?

Links to other subject areas:

PSHE/SEAL links: Thinking about how we cope in difficult situations. This links to the Emotions Detective resources.

Literacy links: Speaking and listening in a group

Literacy links: Discussion writing (Year 6)

Literacy links: Poetry writing (Years 3-6)

Literacy links: Instruction writing (Y3, 5 and 6) – write a set of instructions for Macky to sink Leviathan

Creative/other links: DT/History – moving models of catapults/Roman boats

Name:

Date:



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Worksheet 3.2a

Read each of the following statements and discuss in a small group.
Do you agree or disagree with the statements? Are there different opinions in your group?

Macky and Samuel were doing something wrong.

Only bad people are sent to prison.

Macky and Samuel shouldn't be in prison.

It is impossible to escape once you have been put into prison.

Sometimes people are put in prison by mistake.

It's Sollie's fault that Macky and Samuel are in prison.



Name:

Date:



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Worksheet 3.2b

Jot down words and phrases to describe Peter's feelings and experiences in prison . . .

Chained by my hands and feet

exhausted

. . . and about his rescue

An incredible light

Free as a bird

Imagine you are Peter. Use some of the words and phrases you have collected to write a two verse poem about your experience of being in prison and then of being rescued. This poem doesn't need to rhyme, and could be a collection of carefully chosen words and phrases.

Here's an example of how you could start:

My imprisonment
Exhausted in a dark, dingy cell,
Chains around my feet . . .

My escape
A flash of incredible light,
A gentle voice . . .