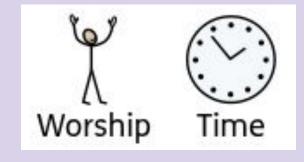


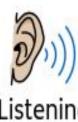
Tuesday 13th May The Pharisee and The Tax Collector.







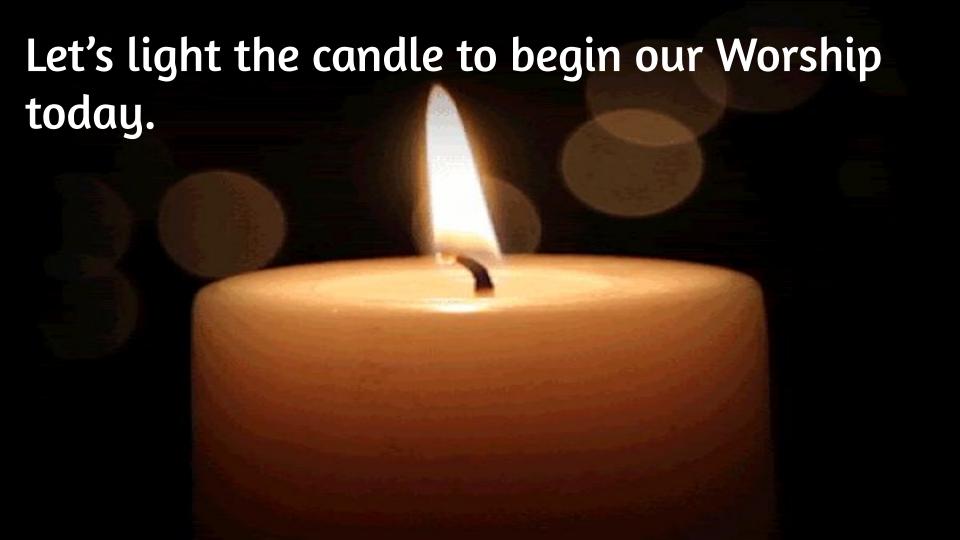


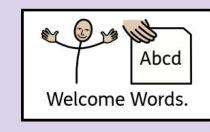


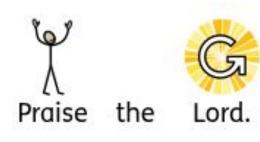




Respectful Joining in









Has anyone ever felt really good about something they've done?









How did it make you feel?

Today, we're going to hear a story Jesus told about two people who felt very differently about themselves when they talked to God."

The Pharisee and The Tax Collector

Pharisees were seen as very religious people. Some of them thought they were better than everyone else.



Tax Collectors were not very popular.
They were disliked by many people because they had to collect their money



Two men went to the temple to pray.

This Pharisee stood tall and proud, all by himself. He closed his eyes and started to pray out loud, so everyone could hear him. He said, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people – greedy, dishonest, and especially not like *that* tax collector over there!' (Point to an imaginary spot). He went on to list all the good things he did: 'I fast twice a week, and I give a tenth of everything I get!' He felt very pleased with himself."



The tax collector stood far off, and he wouldn't even look up to heaven. He felt so ashamed of the things he had done. All he could do was beat his chest sadly and say, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'"



How did the Pharisee seem to feel about himself?

How did the tax collector seem to feel about himself?



Who do you think God was most pleased with The Pharisee or The Tax Collector?

Why?





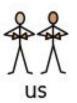


Jesus told this story to teach us something really important. We need to recognise our need for forgiveness. It's good to be thankful for the good things we do but we should also remember that everyone makes mistakes and needs God's help.

Reflection

Think about a time you might have felt proud, and then think about a time you might have felt sorry. Remember that God loves us even when we make mistakes.







Every Step





Dear God,

Thank you for your stories that teach us. Help us to be thankful for the good things in our lives, but also to remember that everyone makes mistakes. Please help us to be humble and kind to others. We ask for your forgiveness when we do wrong, and we thank you for your love that never gives up on us.

Amen.

