

Y3 Reconciliation - Choices





'Choices have consequences'
What do you think this means?

Read the story on the next few pages, then think about the questions. Perhaps you could do this with someone at home.

It was holiday time, and lots of children were playing in the park. Tom and Andrew had met some of their ay friends, and were looking forward to a good game of football.

Just then, along came Paul. "Just look," said Tom, "he's got his sister with him!" And there she was.

Jane was dressed in her shorts and was wearing new trainers. "What have you brought her for?" asked Andrew
"I had to choose," said Paul.
"Mum said I could come if I brought Jane, but if not, I would have to play with her at home."

"It's all right," said Jane, "I can play football. I've been practising at home, and I've got my new trainers."

Tom liked Jane. He'd seen her kicking a football in the school playground and knew she wouldn't spoil the game, but he felt a bit afraid of saying so. He thought Andrew wouldn't be friends with him if he did.

"Hurry up," shouted the rest of the gang. "Aren't you going to play today?"

It was now or never...

"Come on Jane," said Tom,
"We'd better put our football
boots on and show them."

Then he turned to Andrew,
"Give her a chance," he
said.

The game started before
Andrew had a chance to
answer. And they all enjoyed it,
Tom, Paul and Andrew, and of
course Jane.

None of them regretted that
Paul had brought his sister with
him.

1. What do the words *choice* and *consequence* mean?
2. What choices can you find in the story?
3. What two choices did Mum give Paul?
4. What do you think Paul said to his Mum?
5. How do you think Jane felt when she heard what Tom said, and what Andrew said?
6. How do you think Paul felt?
7. What were the consequences of Paul's choice?
8. What choices have you had to make recently?

What choices have you made recently?

What choice have you made?	Good choice or bad choice	What consequences were there?

Making Choices

“There was once a man who had two sons. He went to the older one and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.”

“I don’t want to,” he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. “Yes, sir,” he answered, but he did not go.

Which one of the two did what his father wanted?”



Examination of Conscience

Watch Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket singing
'Always let your conscience be your guide'.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOZzNOkcEgM

What is our
conscience?

How can we let
our conscience
guide us?



"Always
let your
conscience
be your
guide"

Pinocchio

Examination of Conscience

Christians try to live as Jesus lived by making good choices.

There are some things that will help in making a good choice:

- to pray and ask for help.
- to get advice from someone you trust and know makes good choices.
- to think about the possible consequences of the choices.
- will it have a good effect on yourself and on others?

We should pray every day for the help to make good choices.

MAKE
GOOD
CHOICES

Examination of Conscience

Every day, usually before going to sleep, we should 'examine our conscience'. This means that we should think about what has happened during the day and how we have tried to be the kind of person that God wants us to be.

Think about what you have done during the day before you go to sleep.

Say a thank you prayer to God for the good choices you have made.

Say a sorry prayer to God for the bad choices you have made.

Examination of Conscience

Read this prayer with someone at home.
Can you make actions to go with it?

*Holy Spirit, you are with us when we choose.
For our good choices and the joy of making
them, we thank you.*

*For the joy they bring us and others,
we thank you.*

*For our wrong choices, we are sorry.
For the hurt we have done to others,
we are sorry.*

*Help us to take time to think about the
consequences of our choices.*

We ask you to help and guide us.

Amen.

God has forgiven you

God is always loving and forgiving and here is a story that Jesus told that shows this. Read the story of **The Prodigal Son** on the next page or watch an animated version on Youtube and answer these questions.

- What did the younger son choose to do with his money?
- What were the consequences of his choices?
- What did he plan to say to his father?
- What words did he use that meant he had done wrong?
- What does the story tell us about the father?

Can you make a storyboard for The Prodigal Son story?

Listen to and learn this song linked to the story, it is one of my favourites and I love your singing!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wttuxd4F7WE



A man had two sons. The younger became impatient of living at home on the farm. He wanted to set out into the wide world and seek his fortune. He said to his father, “Father, give me my share of the money from the farm that would come to me when you die.”

His father was very sad to hear this, but he loved his son, so he sold off half the farm and gave him the money.

The older brother was furious, but the younger son was delighted. He had never had so much money in his life! At once he set off for a far country where nobody would know him and his riches would impress everyone. And they were impressed! He soon found friends to help him to spend his money. He really enjoyed himself. He did anything he wanted. There would be plenty of time later to get a job, and come home to his family a very wealthy man.

But a famine spread quickly over the country. Crops failed and there was very little work of any sort to be had. His new friends could not even be bothered to offer him a meal. The only job he could find was working on the farm of a Gentile – feeding pigs! He was so hungry that he would have been glad to eat the pigs’ food himself. At last he came to his senses.

“Even my father’s servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I don’t deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

His father had been watching out, hoping his son would come home. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him, barefoot, ragged and dirty and so very pale and thin. He ran to the boy and hugged and kissed him.

The son began his speech, but his father interrupted him, calling to the servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening and prepare a feast. I want to celebrate, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.”

STORYBOARD: _____ **DATE:** ___ / ___ / ___ **TITLE:** _____













Sacrament of Reconciliation

We often call this 'Confession'

One of the more formal ways of saying sorry to God is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is sometimes called *Confession* or *Penance*. It is in this Sacrament that Christians celebrate God's love and mercy. It helps them to think about their lives and how they are following Jesus and it gives them the opportunity to make a new start.

This little girl is making her First Confession.

Watch these video to see what happens:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXLiyY6II6Q

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gy0xSo1JnWs



Follow these steps of reconciliation

Sacrament Of Reconciliation



The priest welcomes the penitent, and they both make the Sign of the Cross.



The penitent confesses/tells the priest his/her sins.



The priest talks kindly to them, encourages them and asks them to do or say something to make up. This is called a *penance*.



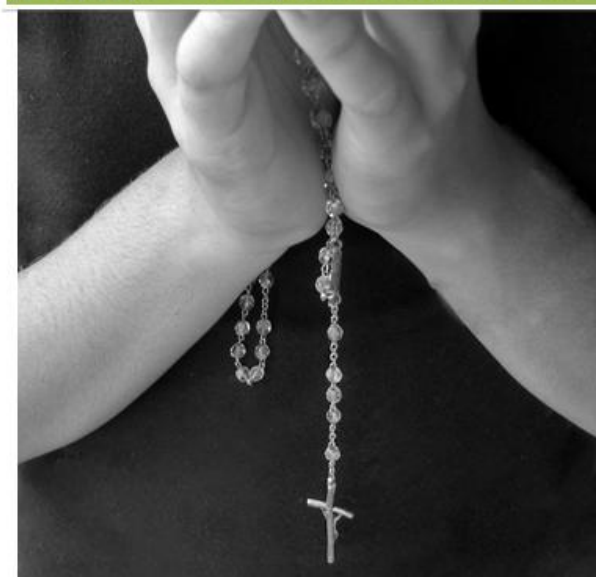
The person then prays an *act of sorrow*, which includes the promise to try not to do the same again.



The priest says the words of forgiveness and absolution.



The person leaves the priest and prays and thanks God for forgiving them, and completes the penance the priest has asked them to do.



Act of Contrition

The Act of contrition or Act of Sorrow is a sorry prayer said during the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but we can say this prayer anytime we are sorry for something we have done.

Act of Contrition

*O my God because you are
so good,
I am very sorry that I have
sinned against you,
and with the help of your
grace I will not sin again.
Amen*



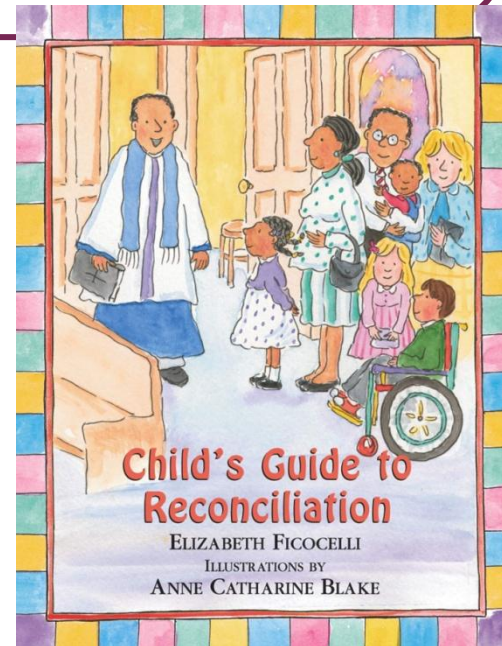
Can you write
your own sorry
prayer?

The steps of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

1. The **penitent**, takes time to **examine their conscience**. This means to think about the times they have not followed Jesus' way of love and kindness.
2. The priest welcomes the penitent, and they both make the **Sign of the Cross**.
3. The penitent **confesses** (tells the priest their sins).
4. The priest talks kindly to them and **encourages** them to do or say something to make up for what they have done wrong. This is called a **penance**.
5. The person then prays an **act of sorrow or contrition**, which includes the promise to try not to do the same again.
6. The priest says the words of **forgiveness** and **absolution**.
7. The person leaves the priest and **prays and thanks God** for forgiving them and completes the penance the priest has asked them to do.

Using these steps, the videos you have watched and the pictures on the pages before, can you make a guide to explain what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Try to include the **key words** (in bold).

You could act out a Confession and ask someone to take photos of you, then explain what is happening in the photos.



Be thankful for God's love and forgiveness

Let us think about all the things we have learned in this unit and be glad of God's unconditional love for us and his unfailing forgiveness.

Remember

- The importance of making good choices and their consequences.
- What helps in making good choices.
- What it means to examine your conscience.
- What happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, of confessing and saying sorry for sins, receiving God's forgiveness, and making up for the harm done.
- The story of The Prodigal Son.



Next time I have difficult choices to make I will.....