



Chosen

Chosen (adjective): having been selected as the best or most appropriate.

Everyone is chosen at one time or another.

People can be chosen for different reasons. Being chosen is also sometimes referred to as being “called” or asked to help in a special way.

Sometimes, we are chosen for something that makes us very excited, or sometimes for something that worries or scares us. Think about the questions below and talk about them with an adult.

Have you ever been chosen for something and said “Yes!” Straight away? Why did you say yes? How did you feel?

Have you ever been chosen or called on for something and said, “No!” Why did you say no? How did it feel?

Do you sometimes have to give up something if you are chosen for another thing? For example, if you are chosen for a football team, you might have to give up time for practices and matches.

Have you ever not been chosen for something? How did that feel?

In this topic, we will explore those people who were called by God and Jesus to help them. We will also think about Baptism and Confirmation and how we, as Catholics, are called by God.

The Call of Samuel

When he was a boy, God spoke to Samuel. Samuel didn't know who was speaking at first, but then he realised and God gave Samuel a special job.

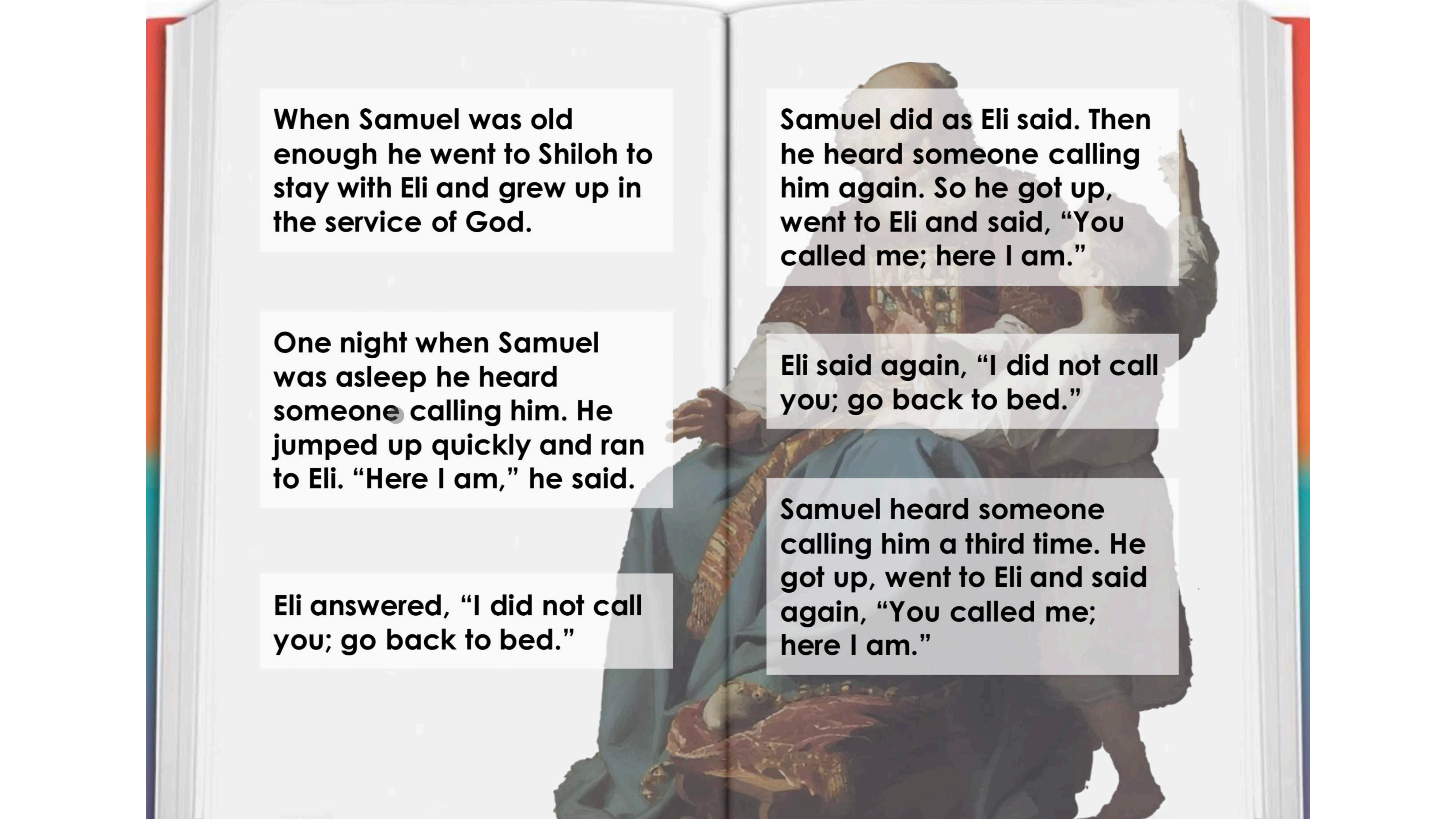
Read the story on the next two slides, then talk about it with an adult.

How do you think Samuel felt when he heard the voice?

How do you think he felt when he realised who was calling him?

This story reminds us that God calls us in different ways, and it is important to answer Him when He calls.





When Samuel was old enough he went to Shiloh to stay with Eli and grew up in the service of God.

One night when Samuel was asleep he heard someone calling him. He jumped up quickly and ran to Eli. "Here I am," he said.

Eli answered, "I did not call you; go back to bed."

Samuel did as Eli said. Then he heard someone calling him again. So he got up, went to Eli and said, "You called me; here I am."

Eli said again, "I did not call you; go back to bed."

Samuel heard someone calling him a third time. He got up, went to Eli and said again, "You called me; here I am."



Eli realised that it was God who was calling Samuel. This time he said, “Go back to bed.

If you hear the voice again, say, ‘Speak Lord, I am listening’.” So Samuel went back to bed.

When the voice called again, ‘Samuel, Samuel,’ he answered, “Speak Lord I am listening.”

**Based on Samuel 2:11; 3:3-10
Gods Story 3**

As Samuel grew up, God was always close to him and Samuel always listened to God’s word.

He became God’s prophet and the people listened to what he had to say.

**Based on 1 Samuel 3:19-21
Gods Story 3**

David is Chosen

As part of his role as a prophet, Samuel was sent to Bethlehem to see Jesse and his sons. God was going to choose one of them. Samuel listened to God and eventually, David was chosen.

Read the story on the next slide and talk about it with an adult, thinking about these questions:

- How did Samuel know he was to choose David from the sons of Jesse?
- How do you think David felt about being chosen?
- How did God decide which brother to choose?



Your task: Imagine you are David. Write a diary entry to explain what happened and how you felt about being chosen.

Challenge: Can you give describe some of the ways your (David's) life might change because you were chosen?



Samuel went to Bethlehem. A man named Jesse, who had eight sons, lived there.

When he saw Eliab, the eldest of the sons, Samuel thought that he must be the one God had chosen.

God said to Samuel, "Take no notice of his height. I have not chosen him.

I do not see as human beings see. They look at appearances, I look at the heart."

Jesse then called Abinadab, but God had not chosen him. Next he called Shammah, but God had not chosen him either.

Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel.

Samuel said to Jesse, "God has not chosen any of these. Are they all the sons you have?"

Jesse answered, "There is one left, the youngest; He is looking after the sheep."

Samuel asked Jesse to send for him. When David arrived Samuel took some oil and anointed him in front of his brothers.

God blessed David and was close to him.

**Based on 1 Samuel 16:4-13
Gods Story 3**

Jesus Calls his Apostles

When God chooses people, it is to do his special work. The apostles were chosen to tell everyone the Good News of God's love.

Read the Scripture on the next slide then talk through the questions with an adult:

- What do you think Jesus thought when he saw Andrew and Simon fishing?
- What do you think the apostles felt when Jesus called them?
- How would you have responded if you were one of them?
- How do you think being chosen changed their lives?
- Do you think Jesus still calls people to help? How does he do this?

Good News

The message of God's love and forgiveness that Jesus came to tell everyone. 'Gospel' means 'good news'.

Kingdom of God

Not a place. When everyone is faithful to God's way of love and peace and keeps God's commandments: that is the Kingdom of God. It is another way of speaking about the new life God has prepared for everyone.



Your task: Imagine you are one of the apostles. Write a postcard (use the template on the following slide) to a friend or family member to explain what happened and how you felt.

Challenge: Can you explain to your friend how it will change your life?

Jesus went into Galilee. He proclaimed the Good News of God saying, "The right time has come.

The Kingdom of God is very near. Turn away from your sins and believe the Good News of God's love."

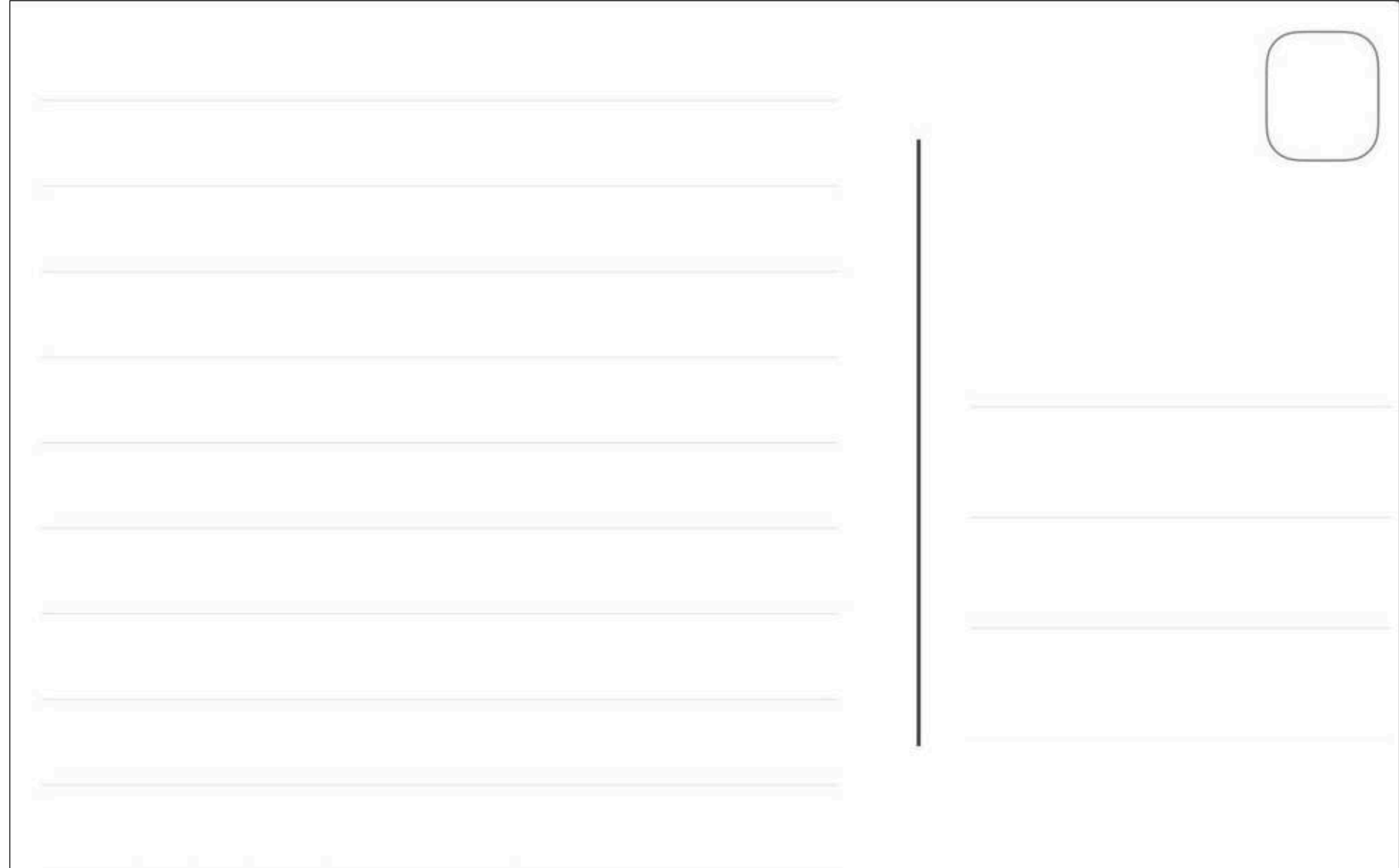
As he was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew. They were fishermen and they were casting a net to catch fish.

Jesus said to them, "Come, follow me. I will make you fishers of people." At once they left their nets and went after him.

A little further on Jesus saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee.

They were in their boat mending their nets. Jesus called to them, "Come, follow me." They left their father Zebedee in the boat and went with Jesus.

**Based on Mark 1:14-20
Gods Story 3**

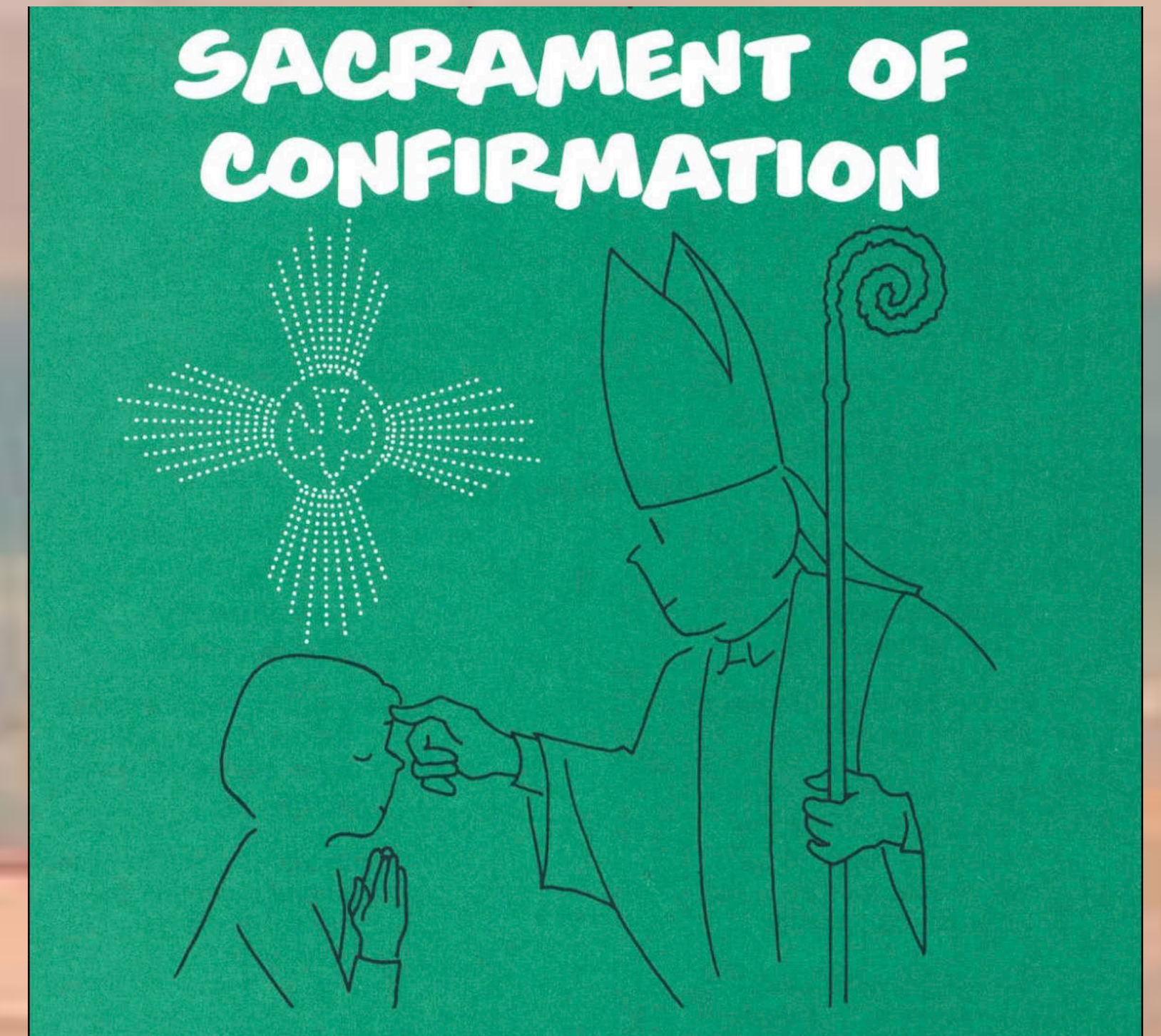


The Sacrament of Confirmation

A Sacrament is a celebration of God's gift of friendship with Jesus and with the parish community. There are seven Sacraments which celebrate special events in our lives. Through the Sacraments, the Holy Spirit helps us to grow closer to God in love.

Read the information about the Sacrament of Confirmation on the next slides, and watch this video with more information: <https://youtu.be/Qt32SyDWuW8>.

If you have older family members who have been confirmed, try asking them for more information or to answer questions you might have.



Your task: Using the words of the prayer to the Holy Spirit, design a prayer card that could be given as a memento for someone who has received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Use the template on the next slides or design your own!

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is a choice made to renew the promises made in Baptism and receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, strengthening their faith.

It is a Sacrament of Initiation, of belonging. It is usually celebrated by a Bishop who is one of the successors of the Apostles and so has power to confirm people.

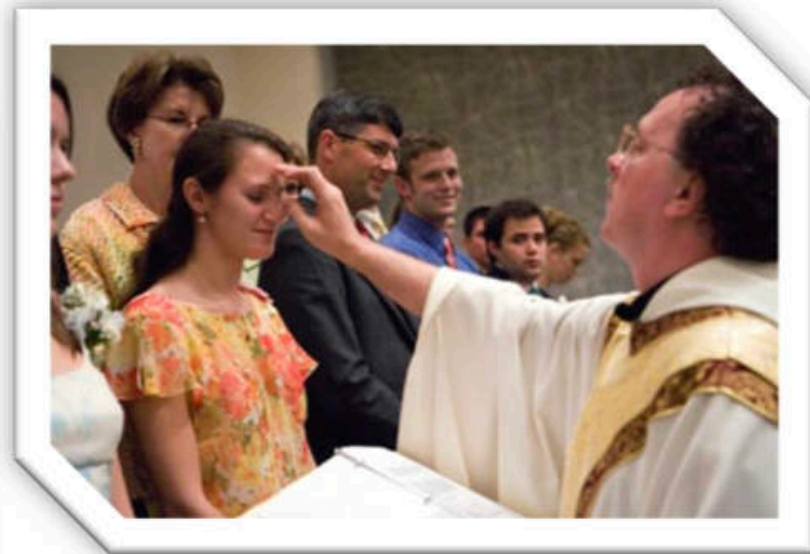


Promises

Once the Bishop has given his homily those being Confirmed renew the promises made at Baptism. These promises were probably made by their parents. Now the person is old enough to understand and make their own promises to reject evil and promise to serve God faithfully.



Sponsor and Anointing



Sponsors are people who inspire you in the way of faith.

Anointing with the Oil of Chrism, a mixture of oil and balsam used to anoint Christians at Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders (becoming a priest) is a sign of being called and marked out for God's service.

Blessing

The Bishop says *'Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.'* A seal is a sign, a mark or a promise made. The Holy Spirit will always be with the Christian to help and guide him or her.



Naming

Those being Confirmed will choose a saint's name, someone who can be looked up to as an example to follow.

Aaron

BEATRICE

Matthew

Edmund

Mary

Jude

Paul

James

John

Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of the faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of thy love.

Living in the Light

The Holy Spirit is a powerful friend whom Jesus promised would help and support us after he had returned to his Father. He is the “friend” Jesus talked about before he died. Christians believe that the Holy Spirit can help us in our struggle between choosing right and wrong. He can lead us into the light of Christ and guide us along life’s path.

Read the Scripture on the next slide, then discuss the questions with an adult.

- What happens when there is a power cut at night and what is it like when the light comes back?
- What do you think it means to live in the light of Jesus?



Your task: Think about how the Holy Spirit could help you at the moment. Write a prayer to ask the Holy Spirit to give you the support you need.

God is light, full of love.

If we do wrong, we turn away from God's light and love and are not able to see the goodness.

At these times we are not sharing God's life and love.

Some people think they can do wrong and still stay close to God. They can't!

If we live in light and love like God does, we are sharing in God's life and God will keep us safe, blest and loved.

**Based on John 1:5-7
(Come & See)**

A Christian Call

Love can make a big difference in how we act towards people.

Read the Scripture to the left and discuss with an adult.

Which is your favourite line? Why?

Next, read the information on the next slide about Sean Devereux, who was called to help others.

What impressed you about Sean?

Why do you think his life is celebrated?

If you are the cleverest person on earth, but do not love, you are nothing.

If you give away everything you possess, but do not love, it will do you no good.

Love is always patient and kind.

It is never jealous.

Love is never boastful or conceited.

It is never rude or selfish.

It does not take offence and is not resentful.

Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins, but delights in the truth.

It is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end.

All the wonderful and clever things that people can say and do will come to an end.

Love never ends.

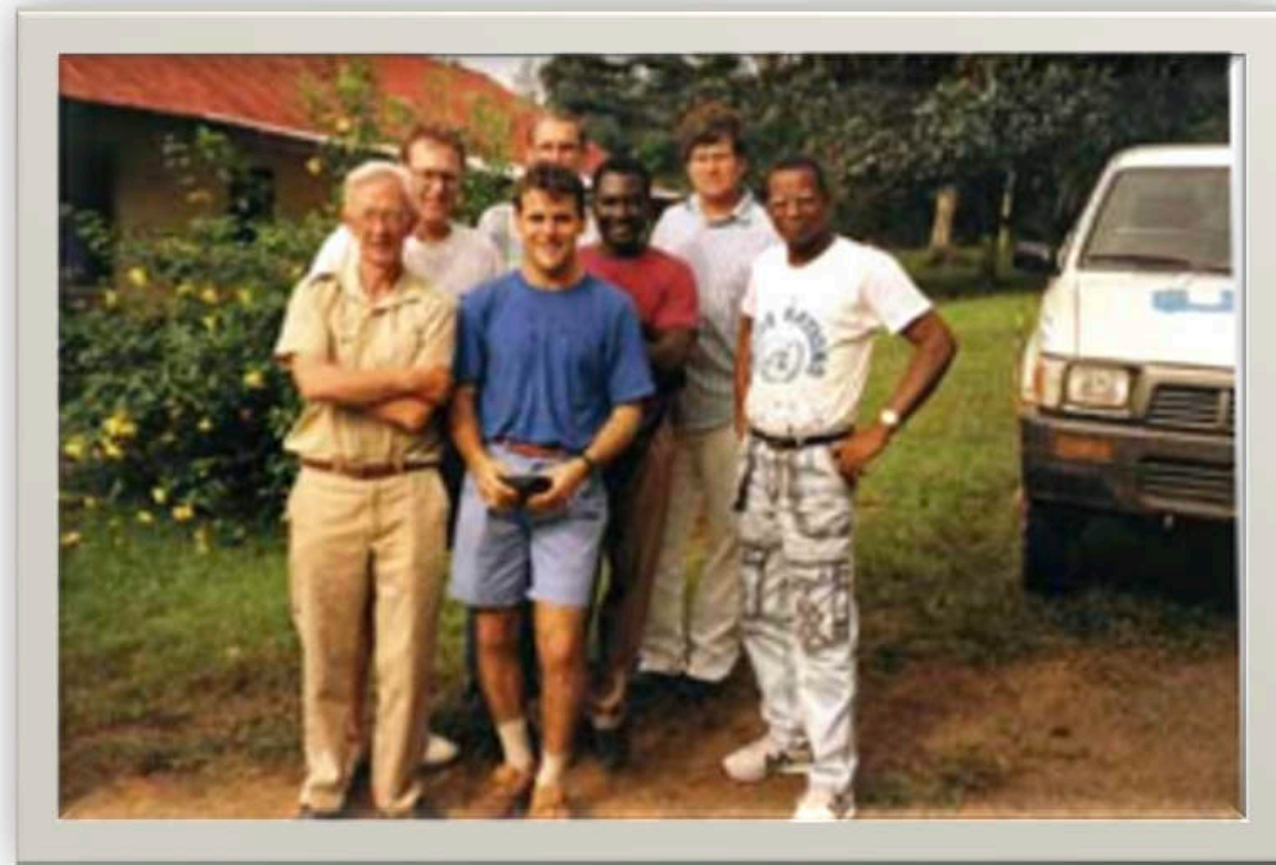
Based on 1 Corinthians 12:31, 13:1-8
Gods Story 3

Your task: Write an acrostic poem using the word "Love" (see template on the next slide). Try to link in some of the ideas from the Scripture.

The Story of Sean Devereaux

Sean Devereux was missionary and aid worker who died in Kismayo, Somalia in 1993 while working with UNICEF to aid children in need. He has since become an important role model for the aid- working vocation, particularly among Christians.

Sean Devereux was a teacher of PE at the Salesian School in Chertsey, Surrey, where he worked for two years before he received his calling to work as a missionary in Africa and help those in need.

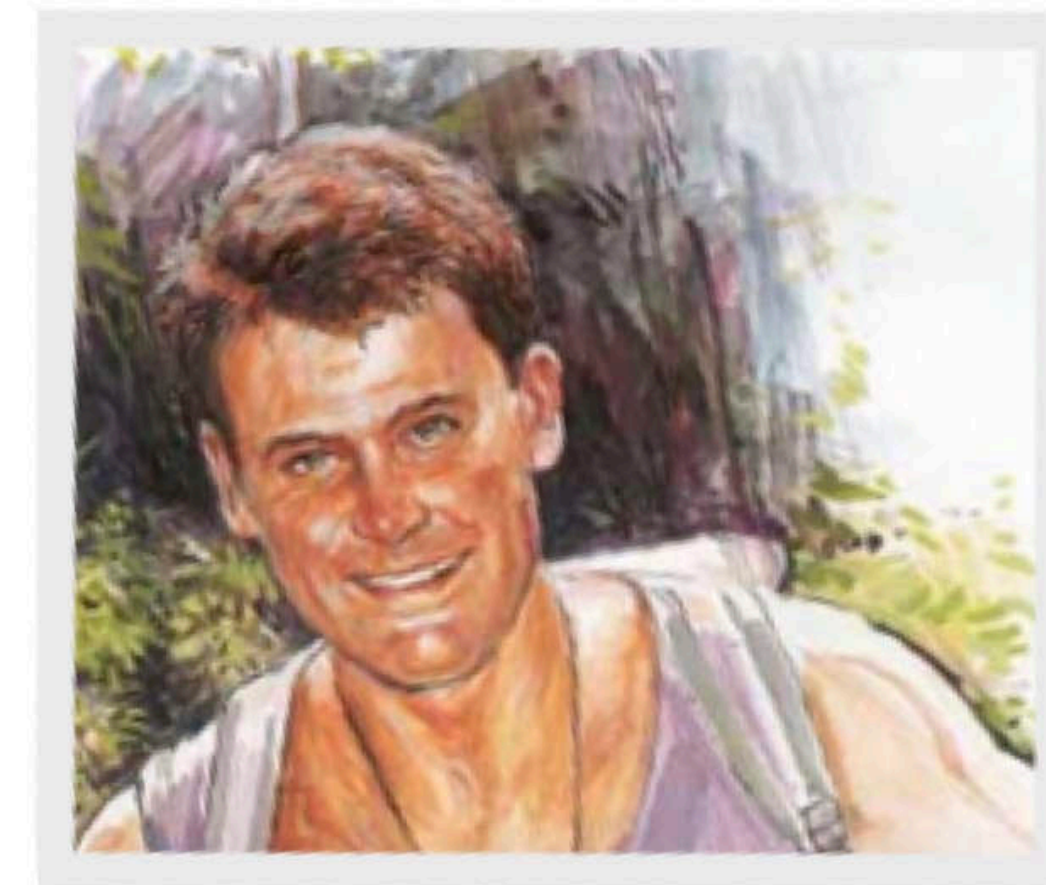


He arrived in Liberia in February of 1989 and began working at St. Francis School in Tappita District. Sean worked tirelessly to protect the young people he was working with but unfortunately he soon found himself

imprisoned by the local government after pleading for the release of a student drafted into the army as a child-soldier.

After being release from prison Sean carried on the work he had started, however escalating violence during the country's Civil War forced the closing of the school and so Sean joined the UN refugee program.

On one occasion working with the UN, Sean was beaten by soldiers after confronting one of them for attempting to steal food meant for refugees. Ultimately he was ordered out of the country in September 1992. Sean left the UN and travelled to Sierra Leone where he stayed until he started working with UNICEF.



Sean left Sierra Leone and began working with UNICEF in Somalia. In Somalia Sean was assigned to organise relief for the starving, particularly children, in Kismayo.

Kismayo was under the rule of one of many warlords in the country. Sean's work helping the needy and starving put him at odds with the warlord and his regime.

After only four months in Somalia, Sean was assassinated by a lone hired gunman while walking near the UNICEF compound on Saturday, 2 January 1993. His assassination came on the eve of the visit from UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Sean died spreading the Good News and aiding children in need.

A Children's Fund was set up after Sean Devereux's death to carry on the work he started.

You can find this fund at <http://seandevereux.org.uk/> where you can view images from his life and work.

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Respond

Spend some time remembering all that you have learned and explored in this topic.

Talk to an adult about what you have learned, share any work you have completed and talk about these questions:

- What does it feel like to be chosen?
- How do people respond to being called?
- How does the Holy Spirit work in our lives?

Fill these pages with everything you want to remember about this topic.

Rejoice

As you finish this topic, plan a Collective Worship with your family. This page includes ideas you could use.

Gather

Set up your sacred space. You could include: a Bible, a fishing net, a bowl of water, a cross, any work from this topic.

Play some quiet music as you come together, then start by making the Sign of the Cross.



Reader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

As Jesus walked along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Simon and his brother, Andrew, catching fish with a net. Jesus said to them, "Come with me and I will teach you to catch people". At once they left their nets and went with him.

He went a little further on and saw two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat getting their nets ready. As soon as Jesus saw them, he called them and they left their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men and went with Jesus.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Response

The Sign of the Cross is the sign of the followers of Jesus. Make the Sign of the Cross now to remind yourself to witness the Good News of God's love. Sit quietly, listen to some music, and ask Jesus to help you to do the special work he has called you to do.

Mission

Everyone is called to be an apostle, to be a follower of Jesus. To be a follower of Jesus is to try to live and love like Jesus. What will you do today to try and live like Jesus?