



This Journal belongs to

Episode 2: Worth

The origin story of Christmas is one of weakness and vulnerability, God in the form of a helpless baby lying in a wooden trough... To understand the real meaning of Christmas we have to go back to the very beginning.

Eric

1. Do you have any Christmas traditions?

.....

2. Can YOU think of a place that helps you see the goodness of God?

(draw it or stick a picture of it here)



3. Write down what it is about this place that makes you feel close to God?

4. Write down some of the poor choices YOU have made eg. littering, lying, speaking in anger...



BUT I'm soon reminded, as I'm tripping over this piece of rubbish, that our mess has corrupted this place and how our whole world is affected by our bad choices. Sarah

Our choices have consequences. Adam and Eve made a poor choice and the consequence was: It damaged the good life that God had given them.

5. Write down some good choices you can make in YOUR life to help care for God's creation.

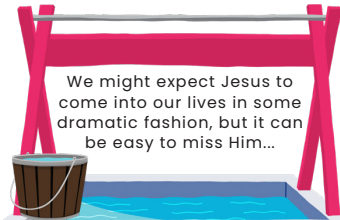
Part 1: Christmas Again

How do YOU feel when you have made a poor choice?



Jesus' life was unexpected. Not what you would expect from the Son of God.

Jonny



We don't expect to find Him our everyday lives and yet, He is there and we can see that if we take the time to reflect and pray each day.

1. CRACK THE CODE

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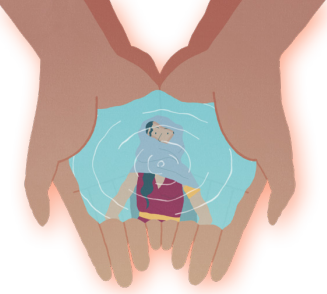
"With Jesus we need to expect the unexpected"

No-one expected the Messiah...
to be born in a S? t/ _9 (£ _7 yet He was.
to talk to _? _5 @ _@ _7 ± _? yet He did.
to wash His disciples' _4 _7 _7 / yet He did.
to be crucified beside _8 ± _5 _3 _5 @ _9 £ _?
yet thats what happened!



3. The Samaritan woman was shocked when Jesus spoke to her. Jews didn't talk to Samaritans!

Can you think of any groups in todays society who don't talk to one another?



4. Jesus used the "physical well and physical thirst, to represent a deeper need, our spiritual thirst... this woman had been trying to fill up a spiritual need with broken relationships..." We often try to fill up a spiritual need with physical or material things.

Have you ever been tempted to think, "If only I had _____ I would be happy?" only to find that when you get that thing, your heart becomes restless again, wanting something else which will make you feel happy and complete? Just like a jigsaw the missing piece is GOD and any other piece won't fit.

5. Take a moment to think of God-given gifts you are grateful for. Make a list or draw a picture of these gifts.

Jesus' bore our guilt and our shame, He broke the power of these things to restore our relationship with God.

Sarah

1. Imagine all the things you might do if you had the "freedom" to do, or not do, anything you wanted. You might eat unlimited amounts of chocolate cake, or stop doing your chores, or have unlimited screen-time!

Take a moment to think about what you might choose to do or not do? Write down your thoughts...

2. But would this so-called "freedom," be good for you in the long run? Take a moment to think what the consequence of these choices might be. Write down your thoughts...



3. Discuss: Would that really be freedom, or would you be becoming a slave to your sinful ways? We can mistake what is actually just selfishness or greed, in other words SIN, for freedom. Jesus' death on the cross offers us true freedom. Freedom from the sin which can imprison us in guilt and shame.



"When I reflect on my own life, I can see how my mistakes and sin made me think less of myself and affected my self-worth... I also realise how my poor choices were hurtful to others."

4. Think of and write down some ways you might try to accept, love and forgive others in your life this week, especially the people you find difficult.

Part 3: Great Friday



Hello friends, super job! You have completed Episode 2. Take a moment to pray to God and be thankful to Him for all the gifts He has given you! See you in Episode 3...

Part 2: The Unexpected

*How many did you spot in the video for this Episode?