

Worship
Thursday 19th November





Leader: The Lord be with you

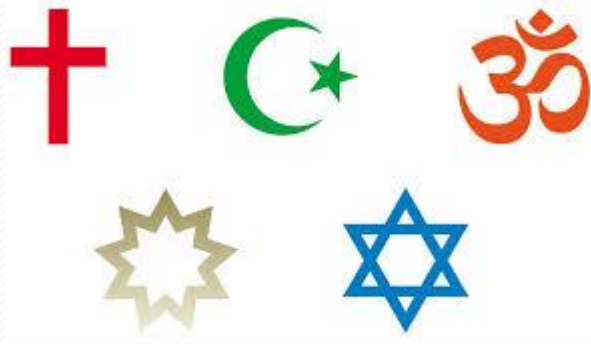
Children: and also with you

*Let your
light shine.*

- Matthew

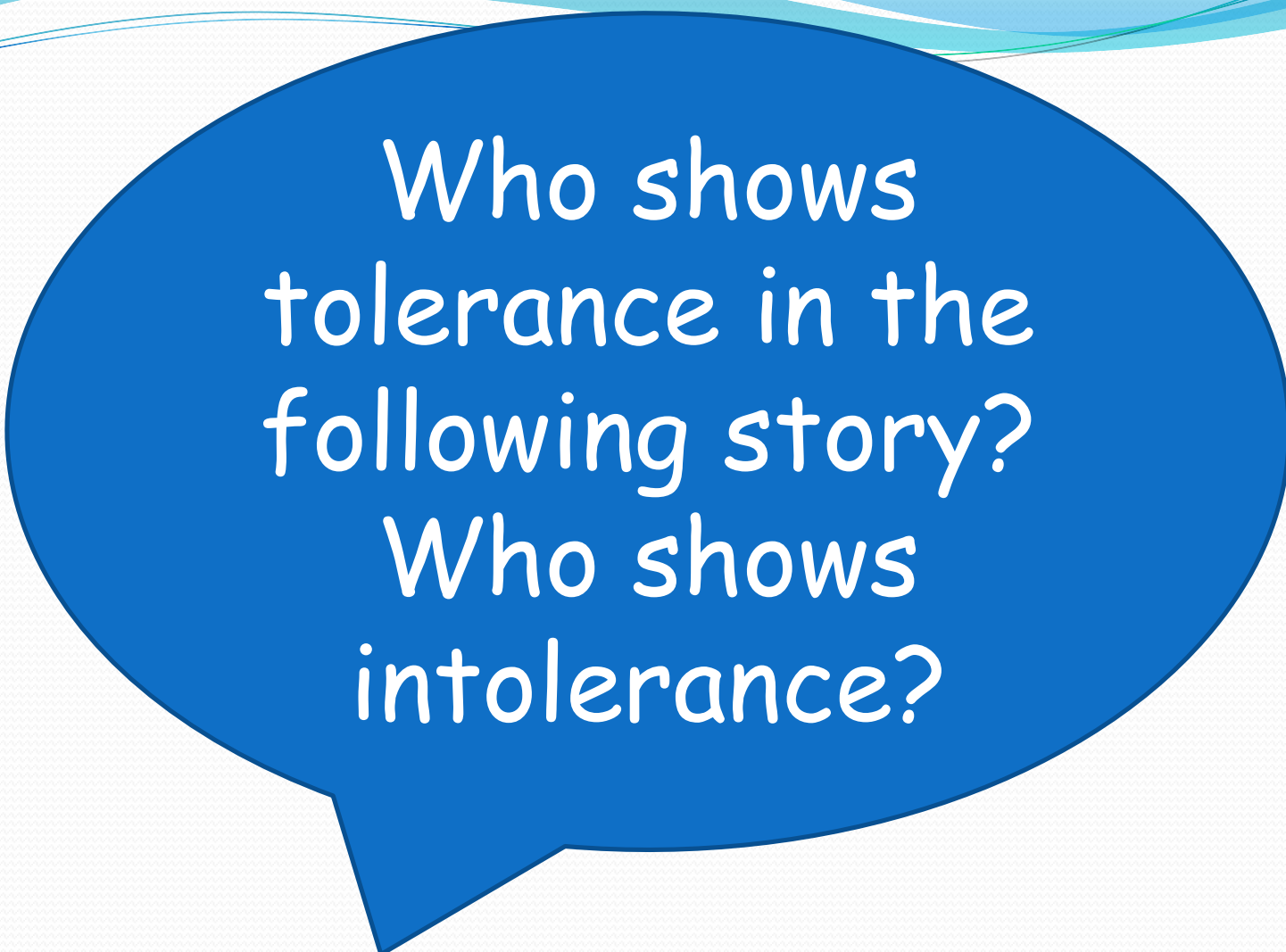


Christian Value: Tolerance



What is tolerance?

Tolerance is the ability to accept others of different race, culture, habits and beliefs.

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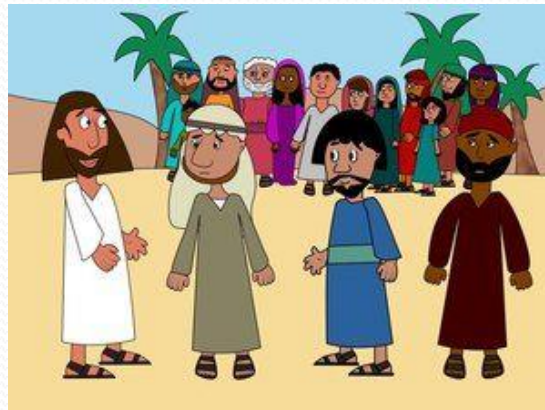
Who shows
tolerance in the
following story?
Who shows
intolerance?



The disciples were used to having to make friends with different sorts of people.

Jesus welcomed all sorts of people into his group of friends: people who broke the law; people who stole; people who lied and people who nobody else liked.

All these people were not just tolerated by Jesus - he didn't just put up with them - he loved them to bits and made them feel really special.



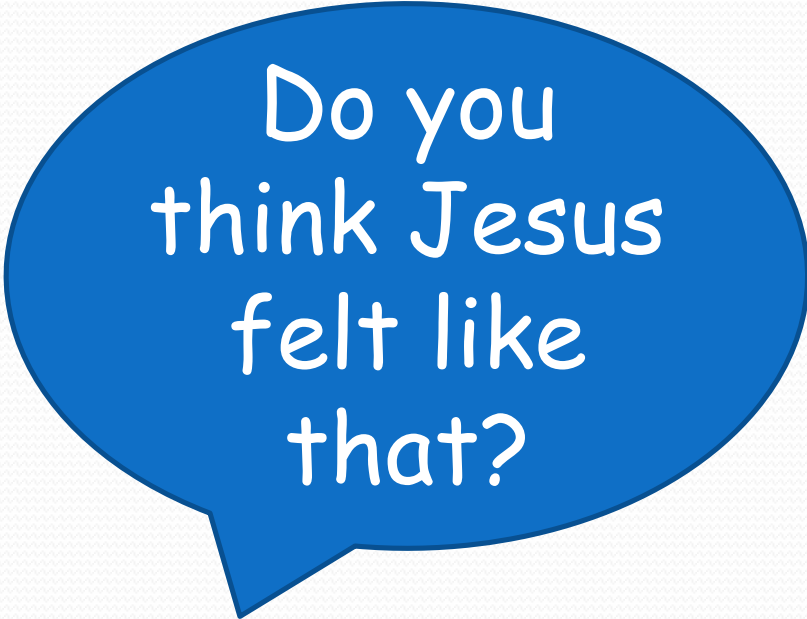
One day, Jesus' disciples were with him as he told the grown ups stories about what God was like. Everyone was listening very quietly and politely as grown ups usually do, when suddenly, a group of toddlers burst through the crowd of grown ups!

Their mums shoved them towards Jesus and put babies in his arms and called out, 'Please bless my baby, Jesus!' The disciples were horrified.


Here they were, all being good and grownup together and these horrible noisy little children were about to spoil everything.



The disciples thought that children didn't matter at all - they were worth nothing until they grew up and became proper people! And here they were, interrupting Jesus and the important grown ups!



Do you
think Jesus
felt like
that?



They quickly jumped up like bouncers or bodyguards and shooed the children and their mums away. 'Don't bother Jesus!' they hissed. 'Can't you see he's very busy with people who matter? Go away!'

- But Jesus held up his hand and walked over to the children. He looked quite cross with the disciples. 'Let the children come to me,' he said. 'Don't stop them.'

'Don't stop them, because the kingdom of Heaven belongs to people who are like these children.'

Listen up, all you grownups - you need to accept the kingdom of God as if you were a child, or you'll never enter it.'



What do you think Jesus meant?

I wonder how
the children felt
when the
disciples tried
to shoo them
away.

I wonder what the
disciples did next
time a child wanted
to come to Jesus.

I wonder how
Jesus would
like you to
behave towards
them.

I wonder if there
are people you
can't stand.



Lord Jesus, you welcomed all sorts of people to be your friends.

You saw what they were like on the inside. Please help us to see other people through your eyes.

Amen.



Amazing grace



Leader: May you go in love and
peace to serve the Lord

Children: In the name of Christ -
Amen

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

