

ROOTS YOUNG PEOPLE

Go to www.rootsontheweb.com for all templates, links and images. Find Bible notes and more prayers on p.6. Use the BIBLE section below first, then choose activities from the other sections. Extra ideas can be found in *Explore & respond* opposite.

BIBLE Matthew 18.15-20

Warm up 5 mins WE

Create a shared story. First, offer a starter such as, 'John had really upset Jane, so she...' Invite each person to add the next line of the story, ending each line with 'so he...' or 'so she...' until everyone has had a turn, or the story has run its course.

Good advice 10 mins WE

Give each young person a copy of the passage and a highlighter pen. Ask them to read the passage and highlight anything Jesus says that they believe is good advice. Share the pieces of good advice with one another. Ask: why does this seem good? Does everyone agree?

Questions to discuss

- Why would Jesus need to talk about how to deal with someone who does wrong within the church community?
- Why might Jesus believe it is best to 'have it out' with someone rather than ignoring the problem?
- What do you think it means when Jesus says that he will be there when two or three gather in his name?


CONNECT

Appreciate me 10 mins WE

Watch the scene 'Appreciate me' from the film *The Breakup* [12A] (link on [WEB](#)). In this clip, Gary let Brooke down by failing to turn up at a concert, and she tells him face to face how this made her feel. Discuss the clip with the young people and ask: what changed between them when she confronted him? What could have happened if she had decided to do nothing?

Speak up 15 mins WEA

Provide access online or print out some stories for the group about people who spoke up against others in their community they believed were doing wrong (link on [WEB](#)). Discuss together the young people's reactions to these people and their actions. How did they make a difference? What types of wrongdoing can occur in the communities we are part of, e.g. church, school, friends, family, country? What action would you be prepared to take?

[WEB](#) PostScript: Linking this week's reading to the news 

Listen

[WEB](#) See *Young People* page or *Hymns, songs & music* for links to these tracks.

Hold Me Together, Royal Tailor on *Black & White*
Rescuer (Good News), Rend Collective on *Good News*
We Will Stand Our Ground, Kingdom Heirs on *We Will Stand Our Ground*

EXPLORE

Role play 10 mins E


Ask the young people to form groups of two or three. Then ask them to come up with a scenario where one person has caused disharmony in a group, e.g. sports team, after-school club, friendship group. Ask the others to role-play how they would approach them in dealing with it.

Fitting together 10 mins ESA

Cut out person shapes from the template (see [WEB](#)), giving the young people one each, and a pen. Ask everyone to write on their person shape an action or quality that helps a community to get along well or builds them up. Work together as a whole group to join all the people shapes into one cohesive pattern.



Picture pointers [WEB](#)

Questions for reflection 

- ▶ How well does this ordered pattern represent your community?
- ▶ What holds your community together?
- ▶ If your community was a hive, who are the bees? The drones? Where do you go for nectar?

PRAY

Unfriended 5 mins ES

Gather the young people in a circle. Invite everyone to picture in their mind someone they have 'unfriended' or 'unfollowed' on social media, and to spend time praying for that person and for their relationship with them.

Praying the psalm 10 mins WS

Give each young person a copy of Psalm 119.33-40 and some colouring pens. Play some quiet instrumental music and give time for everyone to read the psalm and select just one verse from it that stands out to them as something they would like to pray about. Invite them to underline, illustrate or doodle that verse, or to repeat it silently.

Live your faith

Think of a friend who you have upset or who has upset you. Make an effort this week to get in touch with them and put things right. **EA**