



RIGHT TRACKS

GOD CAME DOWN

FAITH-BASED ASSEMBLY



Aims

- To consider what we can give to others in need
- To introduce the term 'sacrifice'
- To learn that Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world



Resources

- PowerPoint presentation
- 'God Came Down' video



Bible verse

'For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son.'

(John 3:16 ICB)



You will need:

- A roll of Rolos, the chocolate sweet
- (Optional) TV advert for Rolos:
Eg www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YZ4R1fNYzI
- A clip from the movie *Frozen* focusing on Anna sacrificing herself for Elsa
Eg www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_TZWU7ZR4Q



INTRODUCTION

Slide 1 - Welcome

Introduce yourself and welcome pupils to assembly.



Slide 2 - What would you give?

We're starting today with the question: What would you give? What would you give to someone who needed it?



Slide 3 - Thumbs-up or down?

- If you would find it easy to do ... *Demonstrate by showing a thumbs-up gesture.*
- If you would find it hard or impossible to do ... *Show a thumbs-down gesture.*





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- Or if it really depended on who it was for, if they really did need it or you're not sure. *Show a thumbs-in-the-middle gesture.*

You may wish to adapt this introduction to a game-show style with volunteers.

Would you give someone your ...

- Pencil
- Bike
- Comic that you've finished reading
- Old teddy bear
- Brand new computer game
- All your Lego
- Pocket money
- Favourite trainers ...

MAIN TALK



Slide 4 - Rolos

A while ago there was a TV advert for a chocolate sweet called Rolo.

Option - show a clip.

Hold up the roll of Rolos. As you speak, unwrap and take out each sweet, placing it on display. Or, if you are skilled at miming, pretend to eat each sweet, while actually pocketing them. Remember to leave the last Rolo in the packaging.

Rolos are chocolates filled with caramel; they are really chocolatey and sweet. The advert was all about how yummy and special the chocolate was. There have been lots of adverts about how something is too good to share and this advert was similar. However, the focus of the advert was all on the very last Rolo. It asked the question: Do you love someone enough to give them your last Rolo?

The advert implied that these chocolates were so special that giving away your last one would be a real challenge - and you would only be able to give the last one to someone you really loved.

It all sounds a little bit silly - until you think about it.





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Imagine your favourite sweet or snack. Who do you love enough that you would give them your very last one? *You may wish to take a few responses.*



Slide 5 - Sacrifice

I've often wondered about this aspect of giving. We explore the importance of being generous to others, but I wonder what about the person who receives the gift? Would your ... Mum, Dad, friend or Gran ... realise that this was your very last Rolo or sweet? Would they appreciate the significance, the sacrifice you made by giving your very last one? *As you say the word 'sacrifice', make a heart shape with your thumbs and index fingers over your heart, then move the heart away from you as you say the word 'giving'.*

Sometimes people give everything to help someone else.

You may wish to watch a clip from Frozen, when Anna sacrifices herself to save her sister Elsa.

Why would Anna give everything to save her sister? *Take a response.*

Because Anna loved her sister so much, she sacrificed herself, she gave everything she had, to save Elsa. *Repeat the heart gesture for the words 'sacrificed' and 'gave'.*



Slide 6 - Christian perspective

In the Christian faith, Christians believe that God loves us so much he gave us many things, including this amazing world. But that wasn't enough for God. He gave the ultimate gift; he gave us his son Jesus.

'For God loved the world so much that he gave his only son.'

(John 3:16 ICB)

What an incredible gift, to give something so precious, to us! Jesus was born and lived with us and learned what it was like to be human, like us. In the Bible, the Christian holy book, we learn that Jesus taught his followers that God loved them. He helped them learn about the best way to live. And finally, Jesus gave everything. He sacrificed himself and died to show everyone just how much God loved them. *Repeat the heart gesture for the words 'sacrificed' and 'God loved them'.*

Christians believe that God loves us so much that he gave us his son.





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Slide 7 - Salvation Army perspective

The Salvation Army, as a Christian church and charity, follows the teachings of Jesus, and its members show their appreciation of Jesus' sacrifice in many different ways. These include learning about God by reading the Bible, praying to God and worshipping him.

Members of The Salvation Army follow Jesus' example and help people where and when they can. This means working to help people in need - for example if they are struggling in poverty or with homelessness, or need help with employment skills, or have been a victim of modern slavery.

But members will find ways to help others in small ways too. They might give some of their time to visit someone who is lonely, or help tidy someone's garden. Or they might share a skill, by playing music at a care home, helping coach a sports team or running a craft club. These might seem small things to do, but they often require some sort of sacrifice.



Slide 8 - Good judgement

We are always encouraged to be generous and share what we have with others. It is really important that we look after each other. But we also need to use good judgement, because we don't want others to take advantage of us. It's very unlikely that we will ever be asked to give up everything we have; but as we learn to share, we also need to understand that it's important to look after ourselves too.

REFLECTION



Slide 9 - Reflection

So what can you realistically give to others? What can you sacrifice? It doesn't always have to be a physical object. It could be some of your time. Or perhaps a change in behaviour or attitude. Or perhaps you could give up something that will, in turn, have a bigger impact on lots of people. One example is helping to prevent climate change. This could be a focus on making better choices on the things that we buy, and re-using or repurposing what we already have. Or perhaps it's using less energy.

Take a moment to reflect on what you could sacrifice to help others. *Repeat the heart gesture for the words 'sacrifice' and 'help'. Pause for a few moments for reflection.*

My next challenge for you is to see if you can spot when someone gives up something for you - and to take a moment to appreciate their sacrifice. You





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could say thank you to them too, using the heart gesture. *Repeat the heart gesture.*

SONG



Slide 9 - Song

The Salvation Army has written a song about God giving Jesus to us.

Play the song 'God Came Down' and encourage the pupils to sing along.



Slide 10 - Goodbye

Thank the pupils and staff for letting you be a part of their assembly.

Play the song 'God Came Down' as pupils leave.

