



CHILDREN RESOURCE

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Ask a child to read John 10:10: 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'

SHARE THIS PART IN A CREATIVE WAY

The Bible has lots of stories about how much God loves everyone in the whole world. Jesus told a story about a farmer and his sheep.

Once there was a good, kind farmer who loved his sheep. He worked very hard to make sure they were all safe and healthy. Every day the farmer counted his sheep to make sure none of them were missing. (You can count the children) 1, 2, 3, 4...99, 100! ...1,2,3,4,99,100. 1,2,3,4,99,100. But then one day, something was different. 1,2,3,4,99...99...99 – oh no! There were only 99 sheep! One of the farmer's precious sheep was missing! He packed some lunch and went off to find his missing sheep. He knew he would not come back until he found it because every sheep was so precious and valuable. He loved his sheep so much. He didn't want a single one of his sheep to miss out on a full life. He climbed mountains (you could pretend to climb), he swam through waters (you could pretend to swim) and finally, he found his lost sheep! He was happy! He brought his sheep back home. 1,2,3,4,99,100! The farmer loved all his sheep. And he would do anything to make sure every sheep was safe, healthy and could live a full life.

WONDERING QUESTIONS

I wonder what part of the story you liked best?
I wonder what part of the story reminded you of Jesus?
I wonder what part of the story is about you?
I wonder what it means to have a full life?

Slavery and trafficking are terrible things. It is when people have their freedom taken away, are made to work in ways that make them unsafe and are not treated as valuable. They don't get to live full lives anymore. When people are treated badly like this, it makes God very sad, and even angry. God doesn't want any of his precious people to be sad, hurt and on their own. God wants everyone to have a full life. He says we can help people who are treated badly. We can help spread his good news of respect, kindness and love for all people on earth, so more people treat others better. We can also help by asking leaders to protect people better, so they don't get hurt by others. It makes God so happy to know he has so many children who are helping him spread love and making the world a safer place.

TEACH YOUNG CHILDREN

Secrets aren't safe – Sometimes we might surprise people; we might buy someone a present they didn't know they were getting. But surprises and secrets are different. Big kids and adults who love us will not ask us to keep secrets. If someone asks you to keep something hidden, you are allowed to tell an adult you trust. If someone tells you to keep a secret, you can tell an adult you trust.

God made you precious – Ask children, what is something very precious to you? When something is precious, how do we treat it? Did you know that God made you precious? Your hands, your feet, your mind, your feelings – every part of you is precious! God wants everyone to treat each other like they are precious. Sadly, sometimes people do not do this. If someone treats you badly, you are allowed to say no. You can also tell an adult you trust.

ACTIVITIES

Secrets vs surprises!

Have one side of the room designated 'secrets' and one side 'surprise'. Tell children you will act out some scenarios. They need to run to the relevant side according to if they think it is a secret or surprise. Your context will change what scenarios you feel are appropriate. Below are just some examples:

- A friend saying there is going to be a surprise birthday party, and not to tell the birthday boy/girl (surprise)
- A family member you do not know very well says they can buy you some treats, but you cannot tell mum or dad (secret)

I am valuable! (memory game)

Ask children to sit in a circle. They take turns going around the circle, saying one thing that makes them valuable/precious. When it is their turn, they say their answer, and then repeat the answers of each person in the circle who has already been.

Speak up!

Allow children to practice speaking up in a fun way. Use phrases such as 'I don't feel safe', 'I don't want to', 'That makes me feel bad'. Have kids create an action, and say loudly all together the phrase you choose. Give them some easy scenarios and get them to say the phrase back to you, such as:

'Come with me, your family won't mind.' – 'I don't feel safe!'
'Here just have this one thing, it will be ok' – 'I don't feel safe!'