

Making Jesus Real in Year 6

Points to mention before beginning:

- * It's to be a no moaning and groaning day
- * Focusing on yourself all day-self and family
- * Today we don't lie to ourselves

Begin with a personally selected prayer that is relevant or special to you, the students or community. A prayer focus could be set up including the students MJR books.

Session 1

With students sitting in groups, ask the groups to come out to the prayer focus to collect their books from you, demonstrating positive body language without words.

Students are given time to look briefly through their books and to write their names on the covers.

Page 3 Explain who Wayne Bennett is, to those who may not know. Read the first paragraph. No need to read through all the points as these will be covered later.

Page 12 Read through the Happy Chappy qualities and explain the activity at the bottom of the page, giving time to complete.

Page 13 Read through the Nasty Pastie qualities and explain the activity at the bottom of the page.

Page 19 Read though the Taking the Good with the Bad paragraph and allow time for students to answer the questions in their heads. Read through the Build a Bridge paragraph and discuss.

Page 20/21 Read through Negative Attitude with the students, giving your own examples if possible.

[Type text]

Page 22 Read through What's In It For Me (WIIFM) and discuss.

In groups students Role Play a WIIFM situation. They will have students acting the parts of parents or grandparents who are the WIIFM's. eg, the children ask their parents if they would drive them to football training, the parents reply that they want to watch the news on TV, why should they have to leave the house. What's in it for me? The children in the role plays are to remain positive, it's the adults who are the WIFFMS.

This is an ideal time to video the students, to both watch their role plays and to observe positive group work. If you have videoed, take the time to replay the plays for the students to watch themselves reinforcing the positive behaviours.

Magnifying Glasses are distributed and students are asked to explore God's creation in a garden or nature area of the school. Students are looking for the greatness in natural objects, eg, flowers, leaves, wood.

This leads on to God Moments

Page 76/77 God Moments. Read through both pages.

Explain that at recess the students are to look for God Moments in the playground. Looking for WESTIE things around them, they will be asked to report back to the group after the break.

Report on the God Moments On o board have 3 columns ruled

God Moment	Good News Gospel	Message

The first column is where the moment is recorded, eg, Billy helped pick up Josh's dropped grapes.

[Type text]

The second column is where the name of the student telling the story, is recorded. The Gospel according to- the name of the child.

The message is discussed and recorded in the third column. Eg, kindness, honesty, etc.

Page 200 Read through the statement and discuss. 3 "Oh Yeahs". Individually, students write three things they can improve within the year.

1 could be something they can improve within themselves

2 something in class

3 something they could improve on at home

When completed the page needs to be carefully removed from the book, folded and placed in an envelope labeled with their name. These envelopes are then collected and kept somewhere safe, to be revisited later in the year.

Jesus in my life today card

Explain the importance of reflecting on our day. Asking ourselves if Jesus was in our life today, etc. (Template available from CSO Wagga)

Students put their name on the card, they then sit in a circle and pass their cards on to the next student, all in the same direction. The students then write something positive on the card and keep passing on around the circle. Eventually the cards should be filled with positive comments from the whole group. They will need some time to read the comments.

It is important for the class teacher to be involved in this activity.

The cards are then folded in half vertically and then horizontally. You may have stickers to be stuck over the words, Where was Jesus in my life today?

The card should be able to stand. Students are encouraged to keep them beside their bed to remind them to reflect on their day.

Finish off the day with the Make Jesus Real song.

Session 2

Points to mention:

*Today we are going to recognise how Jesus works through others.

*Mental Toughness and Peer Pressure will be the main themes of the day

Begin with a prayer, possibly with the MJR books part of the Prayer Focus.

Page 107 Beginning at age 2 take time to read each life stage, giving examples for each if possible. Eg, younger brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents. Focus on the text in the centre of the diagram, this is the main theme for the day.

Page 50 Listening Skills. Read the paragraph, pausing when necessary to give your own examples.

In pairs, students share something the other may not already know about them. Pairs join with another pair, the listeners share what the other student told them to the new pair of students. Emphasise the need for careful listening to retell the information.

Pages 53 & 54 Mental Toughness, Self Discipline and Ability to Make Good Decisions. Read and discuss the paragraphs. Allow time for students to write answers to the questions.

Page 54 & 55 Soft Options, Billy Carts, Snow Flakes and Blisters.

Read through the explanations, discussing and giving your own examples.

The next part could be done by choosing one story or dividing into three groups and giving a story to each.

Page 30 Jessica Watson

Page 31 Sophie

Page 32 Henry

Read through the passage and discuss their hero qualities.

[Type text]

Page 29 Search For The Hero. Students highlight the phrases or lines that mean something special to them. Share in groups and possibly back to the whole group. Listen to the song. Encourage students to sing along.

Continue on to pages 33 & 34 Search for the secrets you hide and Key to your life. Discuss the importance of these messages and answer the questions in the book.

Steve Waugh dvd Chase Your Dreams, Layne Beachley. Watch and discuss the issue of peer pressure and being resilient

Page 109 14 Ways to be a Good Friend. Read through the list together. Students circle their top 3. Record on the board as a tally to find the class' number 1

Pages 110 & 111 Friendship con't and Peer Pressure. Read, discuss and complete.

Nick Vujicic filmclip Are You Going To Be Strong from mjr08@edublogs.com.au. Watch and discuss the importance of Positive Thinking

Distribute the envelopes from Term 1. On the back of the sheet in the envelope, students write 3 things they want to be and 3 they don't. These can be listed under the headings of + and -, positive and negative.

Build a Bridge

Small groups are given newspapers and 6 pieces of masking tape.

Together as a group the students are to build a bridge. Video if possible to focus on the positive team work.

Session 3

Points to mention:

Today we are going to focus on the importance of;

learning from our life experiences and

learning to fly

Begin with a prayer, possibly with the MJR books as part of the Prayer focus

Page 103 & 104 Learning from Life Experiences. There is probably too much in these 2 pages to complete all at once, perhaps complete some and return to the rest at another time.

Page 105 Do You Turn People On or Off? Allow the students time to complete this activity. Remind them it is private and they should not lie to themselves.

Page 56 - 59 Teamwork & giving 101%. Discuss the importance of working together. Add more one percenters to page 59.

Page 60 - 64 Teamwork at home (TAH) Read through and complete the pages.

Page 95 Go Into Your Heart Room. Read through together emphasizing the importance of reflection

Page 112 Remind the students of the need to fly with the eagles.

Page 116 This is my life my future. Allow time for students to complete the picture, possibly reflecting on their own future.

Page 117 Learn To Fly. Students read the lyrics and highlight any of the words or lines that are relevant to living a positive life. Listen to the song and allow students time to share their highlighted parts of the song.

Paper Planes. Students make planes to their own designs, these are decorated with the concepts talked about so far in MJR. These could include: Don't hang around with the turkeys, Fly like an eagle, Go to your heart room, This is my life, my future etc.

[Type text]

Students can then take the planes outside and fly them as you feel appropriate. Whether they have a competition of whose flies the furthest or fly them individually.

Envelopes Students are given the opportunity to open their envelopes from earlier in the year, to read their aims and to check if they are on course to reaching these goals. If necessary they can add any short term goals they may feel are appropriate.

Resources for this work

MJR Website. This site has many good resources from You Tube.

Steve Waugh dvd Chase Your Dreams. This has many interviews with inspirational Australians. There are discussion questions at the end of each interview. Layne Beachley is the first interview. John Maclean is also very good.

CD of songs used in MJR. Born to Fly is on this CD

Session 4

Points to mention

Today we will look at what needs to be done to be ready for High School and maintaining a positive attitude.

Pages 16,17 & 18 Positive Attitude. Read and discuss the questions on page 16. Students asked to name 3 people they know who have a positive attitude to life. Read and discuss the signs of a positive person on page 17. Students answer the questions on page 18, possibly in pairs or groups.

Pages 24-27 Givers and Takers. Read through and discuss these pages. Possibly make their own posters, "How to be a Giver".

Pages 28-29 Be determined. "Play Search for the Hero" while completing this page.

Pages 33 -34 Search for the secrets you hide and key to your life.

Pages 48-52 Anger Management, Blamers, Honesty and Trust. Read through and discuss adding personal stories to help discussion.

Pages 73-74 Problems and disappointments. Read and discuss. If available watch the Steve Waugh DVD Chase Your dreams, John McLean's story or You Tube clip "Don't Give UP -Derek Redmond".

Pages 190 & 191 Self Evaluations. These questions ask the students to reflect on their year and to rate themselves 1 to 5 in each category.

The final activity takes a while to do, however it is worthwhile.

You will need yellow A4 cards (template available from CSO Wagga MJR Website) these have the headings "Did I see "God" and the "Good" in myself and other people today?

Read through the attitudes on the card and ask students to go through their books highlighting 20 of the MJR attitudes, many are in the page headings. (They are looking for the ones that mean something to them).

Divide the blank side of the yellow card into 4. In the top left corner write the heading "Good memories of school" and underneath write the years, eg.

[Type text]

K

1

2 etc

Students take time to reflect on something memorable from each school year and allow time for discussion to help jolt memories.

In the bottom left corner of the card the students write the heading, "10 key values and attitudes I want for my life".

The students choose 10 of the ones highlighted earlier and write them under the heading.

In the top right corner the heading is "5 key values/attitudes I want for my life".

Students choose from the 10 already written to condense the list to 5.

Finally, the bottom right corner has the heading, "The key attitude I want for my life" and "Why"

The one most important attitude is written in this space.

Return to page 107 to remind students of the changes they will encounter over the next few years, eg, high school, new friends, teachers, etc. Discuss the importance of choices made and consequences.

Distribute the envelopes one last time for the students to evaluate whether they have reached their goals this year or whether they will continue to work on them in the future.

Finish off with some team building activities, eg, obstacle course, relays, etc