mission impossible.

understanding the Christian response to refugees.





mission impossible.

Setting up the activity

Decide how many groups you will have working on the activity - students are best working in groups of 4-5.

Each group will need:

One briefing sheet (page 3 of this pack)
One set of clues in an envelope (pages 4-8 of this pack - cut out individually)
A blank social media sheet (page 9 of this pack)

Completing the activity

Hand out the briefing sheets. Read through this as a class and make sure that everyone understands a) what had happened and b) that they will need to use their clues to decide how the Christian community should respond to the crisis.

Hand out the clues and give students 10 minutes to look through them. At this point it is worth spending 5 minutes as a whole class making sure that they all understand why Christians would believe that they have a duty to help the refugees who have arrived in the imaginary town.

Now allow students 10 - 15 further minutes to come up with an idea for something the community could do to help the newly arrived refugees. They need to decide what to do and then create a social media post that explains what they are going to do and why other Christians in the community should help - they must use some of the teachings in their clue packs to persuade others to help.

mission impossible.



25 families of refugees have arrived in the Christian town of Cherish-next-the-Sea.

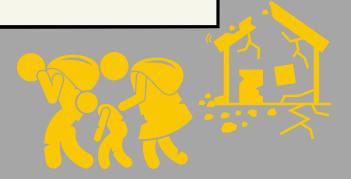
They have fled a terrible war and arrived with nothing more than the clothes they are wearing. They are cold, scared and hungry.

The people of Cherish-next-the-Sea have a reputation for being caring and helpful, the newly arrived families are hoping that this is true.

In your envelope, you have a set of clues that will help you understand what the community response should be and why. Read through the clues and decide whether you think they will help, and why.

Your next job will be to decide what you think they will do and how to persuade other people to help. You'll need to create a social media post to tell everyone what you are doing and use teachings from your "clues2 to encourage them to help.

Good luck.



3/=

This prayer was written by the Church of England for refugees and those who want to help them,

Heavenly Father,

you are the source of all goodness, generosity and love.

We thank you for opening the hearts of many
to those who are fleeing for their lives.

Help us now to open our arms in welcome,
and reach out our hands in support.

That the desperate may find new hope,
and lives torn apart be restored.

Ve ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who fled persecution at His birth
and at His last triumphed over death.

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Oxfordshire

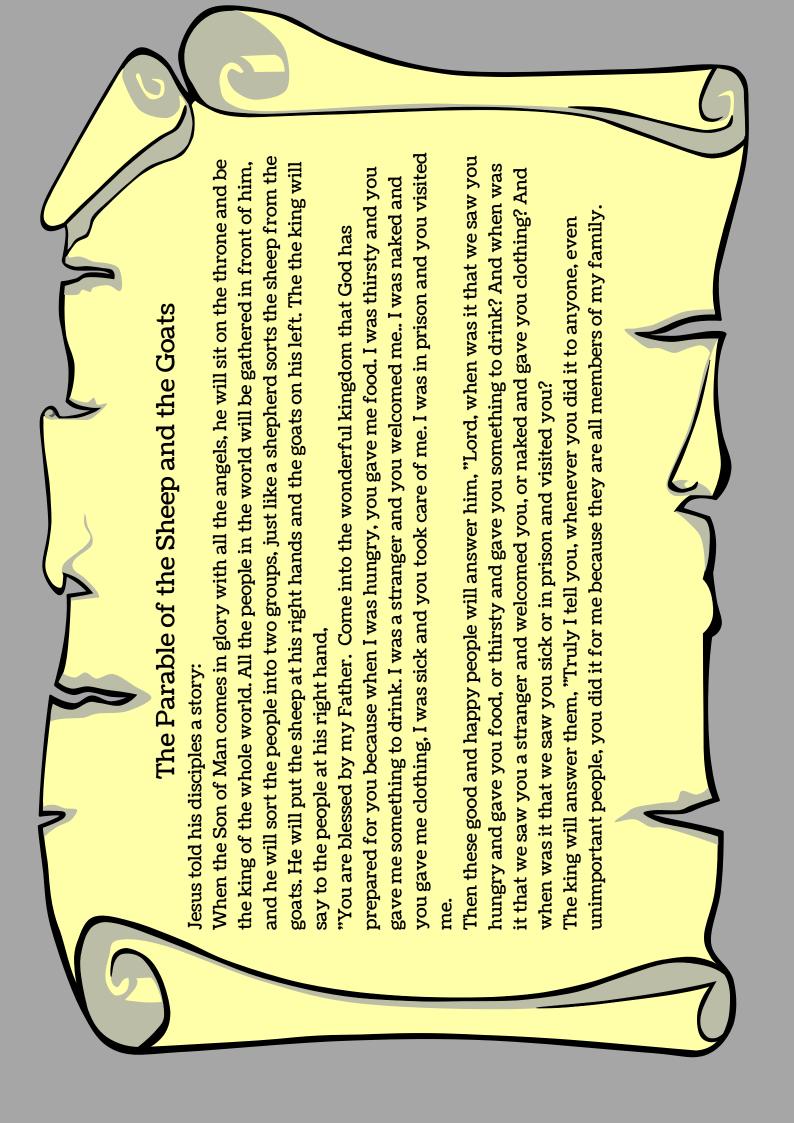
The Good Samaritan.

A teacher of the Law asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?" and Jesus told this story in reply:

There was once a man who was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by, on the other side. In the same way, a Levite (a member of a Jewish tribe) also came along, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by, on the other side. But a Samaritan who was travelling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him and bandaged his wounds; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. "Take care of him", he told the innkeeper, "and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him." And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbour towards the man attacked by the robbers?" The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him." Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

Jesus said, "Love the Lord you God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself."

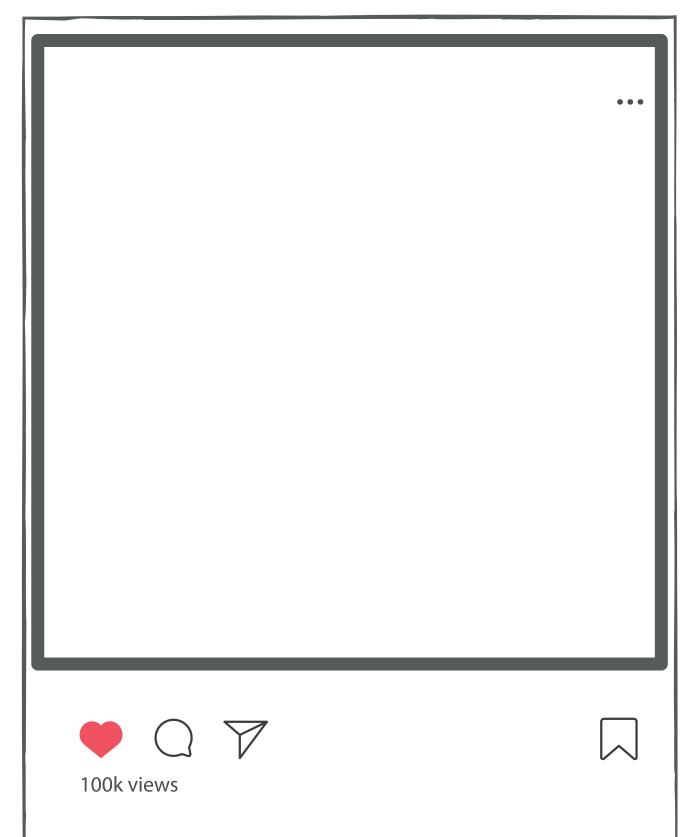
"As Christians we believe we are called to break down barriers, to welcome the stranger and love them as ourselves (Leviticus 19:34), and to seek the peace and justice of our God, in our world, today...The people of these islands have a long and wonderful history of offering shelter and refuge, going back centuries - whether it be Huguenot Christians, Jewish refugees, Ugandan Asians, Vietnamese boat people or many, many more..." The Archbishop of Canterbury 2015.





Matthew 2:13 -15

This part of the Bible tells us that Mary and Joseph had to leave Israel and travel to Egypt after Jesus was born. This is because the king at the time, Herod, was killing all the baby boys. The holy family arrived in Egypt as refugees and stayed there until Herod died and it was safe to come back to Israel. So Jesus himself was once a refugee.



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