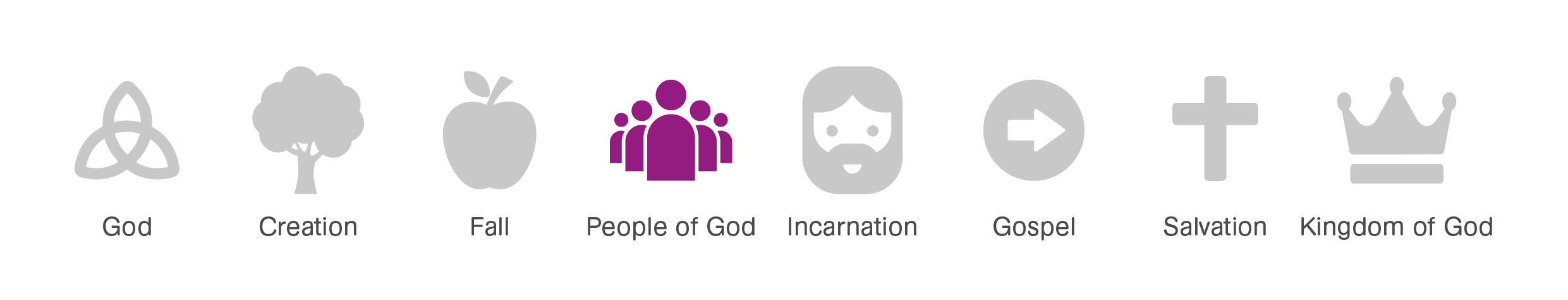
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**Context**

This assembly picks up on a friendship between David and Jonathan from the book of 1 Samuel. It’s about friendship and standing up for others. Jonathan loves his best friend David, but also honours his father, King Saul. He stands up for his friendship and for David even though it puts him in a difficult situation.

This assembly focuses on **the value of friendship**. Jonathan stands up for David and this assembly encourages us to stand up for others in the right way.

**The One Thing**

Each assembly focuses on ‘one thing’ that the pupils should get by the end of collective worship. Try asking pupils after collective worship what they took away to see how well you did in communicating this. Today ‘the one thing’ is **‘friendship can mean standing up for others.’**

**Pupil Involvement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **/Volumes/SH/BSA/Assembly Development/Brand Assets/Traffic Light/Green.jpg** | **Brilliant but needs planning**   * *Find examples of friends who have stood up for others. Invite some children to do some research and read a paragraph about them. e.g. Rosa Parks, Jennifer Lawrence, Princess Diana, Jody Williams.* |
| **/Volumes/SH/BSA/Assembly Development/Brand Assets/Traffic Light/Yellow.jpg** | **Great and relatively fast to do**   * *Train a few older children with drama skills to be leaders of each third of the assembly to be copied by others.* |
| **/Volumes/SH/BSA/Assembly Development/Brand Assets/Traffic Light/Pink.jpg** | **Quick, easy and better than nothing**   * *Make signs saying Saul, David & Jonathan.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Gathering**  *Gathering is an important first step in collective worship. It is a time of welcoming. It’s a time to create a context for the session and encourage openness.* | |
|  | **Countdown - 2 minutes**  Use the embedded countdown or make your own slideshow with pictures of your school community or pictures of different kinds of relationships.  **Do – 4 minutes – Great Friends?**  Invite three pairs of friends to the front. They need to know each other quite well.  **Example Script:**  Great friends know each other well. They admire things in their friend. David and Jonathan in today’s story were great friends. Maybe your best friends are…. kind, helpful, enjoy the same hobbies, encouraging. For a game I would like three pairs of friends, who know each other quite well.  *[Select three pairs of friends, introduce them to the assembly.]*  I am now going to ask one of each pair to step outside the room and then I’ll ask the other partner two questions. *[Send the three children out of the hall, with adult supervision.]*  So here are my two questions: ‘What makes your friend a great friend? And what will they say makes you a great friend?’ *[Listen to the answers from each child.]*  Now without speaking we’re going to swap you with your friend and hear their answers. *[Swap the children over without allowing them to confer.]*  So here are my two questions we asked your friend who has just gone out: ‘What makes you a great friend? What do you think they said?  *[Listen to the answers from each child.]*  We also asked them ‘What will you will say makes them a great friend?’  *[Listen to the answers from each child.]*  *[Invite the three children back in and share any comments related to their answers.]*  Today’s story has David & Jonathan in it. David probably admired Jonathan’s kindness, friendship and loyalty. Jonathan would stand up for David no matter what. Jonathan probably liked David’s leadership, bravery, maybe his musical skills and probably enjoyed his company. |
| **Engaging**  *Engaging is where we dig deeper. It is a chance for pupils to encounter and immerse themselves in the Bible story and the lessons and values we can learn from it.* | |
| Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Story_Bubble.png    Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Think_Bubble.png | **Story – 5 minutes**  **What you need:**   * The story script (Appendix 1 – at the end of this document) * (Optional) Three signs: Saul, David & Jonathan   **Telling tips:** Divide the assembly into thirds; one third are David, one third Jonathan and the other third Saul. Throughout the story it says characters an actions, e.g. “David smiled”, so all the Davids smile. “Saul was angry”, so all the Sauls look angry etc.  **Think. Pair. Share. – 2 minutes**  *What is the most important characteristic of a friend?*  *[30 seconds thinking alone, 1 minute sharing with the person next to you.]*  **Think – 2 minutes**  **What you need:**   * A mirror   **Example Script:**  When we look in a mirror we see ourselves; our faces often. This shows the outside of us. If a mirror showed what was inside, what kind of friend or person we are, what would it show? Would you be kind, thoughtful, helpful? What about strong, brave and loyal? Would you be a good listener?  Jonathan stood up for David. He was strong on the inside and his friendship was very important, even to challenge his father, King Saul. I wonder how strong we are inside? *[pause and look in the mirror]* If our friend was in trouble would we stand up for them? *[pause and look in the mirror]* If it meant we might be criticised too? Or take a risk? *[pause and look in the mirror]* I wonder, when your friend needs you to stand up for them, when they are not included, left out, complained about or even hurt, would you stand up for them? *[pause and look in the mirror]* |
| **Responding**  *Responding is about reflecting upon the story and message and allowing opportunities for pupils and staff to apply this into their own lives. Responding moves the story on from something that we’ve heard to something that shapes us.* | |
| Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Sing_Bubble.png  Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Pray_Bubble.png  Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Pray_Bubble.png | **Sing – 3 minutes**  *Stand Up* (embedded in PowerPoint)  **Summary:**  As we think about standing up for our friends, lets sing a song about standing up and being brave.  **Top Tip:**  You could ask a few students to come up with some simple movements to the lyrics, to make the song more interactive.  **Pray – 2 minutes**  *[Read the prayer with the children silently standing and sitting as words are spoken.]*  **Script:**  As I read this prayer, please silently stand when I say **stand** or sit when I say **sit**. Let’s pray.  Dear Father God,  Thank you that you are always with us, that when we know you, you call us your friend. Thank you that you **stand up** for us.  When **we sit** with friends and get to know them better, you are with us.  Help us to **stand up** wisely for our friends, when they need support and loyalty. May we continue to **stand** when its hard and always be available for our friends.  Help us to **sit** with each other and listen more.  Amen.  **Reflect (Prayer Alternative) – 2 minutes**  **What you need:**   * A copy of the prompts below.   **Script:**  Let’s spend some time thinking about standing up for those who need us to stand for them. When I say **stand**, please silently stand, or when I say **sit**, silently sit.  **Let’s all stand**, and think how we can be the best friends we can be.  [pause]  **Let’s sit**, and think of when we can be there for friends in difficulty and listen to their needs.  [pause]  **Let’s all stand** and think of those who need someone to stand with them. Maybe our friends who need support, or those less fortunate than us who need us to be a voice for them.  [pause]  **Let’s sit**, and think of people who we can help by **standing** up for them, by asking for help on their behalf. |
| **Sending**  *Sending is about transitioning from this special time back into the school day and taking what has been learned in collective worship to the classroom, playground and home. It is an encouragement to put into practice what has been explored and reflected upon.* | |
| Brand%20Assets/Module%20Icons/Takeaway_Bubble.png | **Takeaway – 2 minutes**  **Script:**  To stand up to something for a friend shows loyalty. It should be done wisely and with care. Sometimes your friend may need you to tell the truth and help them overcome something rather than just standing with them. Sometimes ‘standing with a friend’ is about being together in a problem, rather than fixing it.  Many people support charities that ‘stand up to…’ something. Like stand up to cancer, or stand against racism or bullying. This is like saying ‘I agree’ or I support victims of these things. Sometimes standing up is for friends, and other times for people we may not know who are suffering but we show we care.  **Exit**  Play *Stand Up* again as children leave (embedded in PowerPoint). |

**Class Room Activity (Optional)**

*Keep engaging with the value unpacked in the assembly by encouraging staff to use the following classroom reflection at some point in the school week.*

**I’m Going To Be A Stand Up Friend**

**What you need:**

* Craft materials
* Lollipop sticks
* A stand to put figures on e.g. foam block, upside-down egg box, pot (with long lollipop sticks or dowel rods)

**Script:**  
Today we are going to make a mini version of ourselves and place it in a pot/stand/foam block – using a lollipop stick and assorted crafts.

When we put the figure in the pot we are going to agree ‘to stand up for our friends’ just like these mini versions stand up.

**Appendix 1:**

**Best Friends // David & Jonathan**

**Bible Story: 1 Samuel 19:1-7**

**Value: Friendship**

*[Divide the assembly into thirds; one third are David, one third Jonathan and the other third Saul. Throughout the story it gives characters and actions, e.g. “David smiled”, so all the David’s smile. “Saul was angry”, so all the Saul’s look angry etc.]*

**Summary/Preparation Script:**

Our story has three characters, Saul (the king), Jonathan (Saul’s son) and David (Jonathan’s friend). In the story each character does different actions and shows different feelings. So you are going to be today’s actors, whilst staying in the same spot you are sat in now! This third of the hall are David, when David does an action or shows a feeling, you do it. This third of the hall is Jonathan, when Jonathan has a feeling you show it. Finally, this third of the hall do whatever Saul does.

Let’s practise: **David** stood up and sat down silently [pause]. **Jonathan** smiled [pause]. **Saul** looked angry [pause]. Yep you’ve got it! Let’s begin our story…

**Story Script:**

[\*\*\* = motion towards a third of the hall ready for an action.]

The king wanted to kill David.

\*\*\* King **Saul** was angry. [Saul’s act angry].

Saul knew that one day David would be king, but he wanted to stay king longer.

\*\*\* **David** was scared. [David looks scared]

He was hiding in a field.

\*\*\* **Jonathan** was brave. [Jonathan looks brave]

He was David’s best friend and wanted to stand up to his dad, the king, to keep David safe. He wanted to protect his friend. Jonathan told David that King Saul wanted to kill him and that he needed to be careful in the morning. He planned to take Saul to the field where David was hiding and then make everything better.

\*\*\* **David** stood up and walked, *on the spot,* to the field. [David stands up and walks on spot]

\*\*\* **David** sat down and hid silently. [David sits down]

\*\*\* **Jonathan** stood up and walked, *on the spot,* to see the king. [Jonathan stands up and walks on spot]

\*\*\* **Jonathan** sat down at the feet of King Saul. [Jonathan sits down]

\*\*\* **Saul** stood up from his throne. [Saul’s stands up].

\*\*\* **Saul** sat down and listened to Jonathan [Saul’s sits down and listen].

Jonathan explained that David was good, that he hadn’t tried to harm the king and that he had risked his own life, fighting a giant called Goliath. He explained that God had used David to win battles for the king.

\*\*\***Jonathan** pleaded. [Jonathan pleads]

\*\*\***Saul** listened. [Saul listened]

\*\*\***Jonathan & Saul** walked, *on the spot,* to the field [Jonathan & Saul stand up and walk on spot]

\*\*\* **David** stood up from where he was hiding and walked*, on the spot,* towards them. [David stands up]

\*\*\* **Saul, David & Jonathan** sat down together. [Everyone sits down]

The king explained that we won’t kill David, that he is safe.

\*\*\***Jonathan** was happy. [Jonathan looks happy]

\*\*\***David** was happy. [David looks happy]

Jonathan had stood up for David. He had spoken up to keep him safe. Jonathan had had to be brave for his best friend. He knew that friendship means you stand up for others.

Thank you very much actors, please can

\*\*\* **Saul** take a bow and **Jonathan & David** clap. [Saul stands to take a bow, Jonathan & David clap]

\*\*\* **David** take a bow and **Jonathan & Saul** clap. [David stands to take a bow, Jonathan & Saul clap]

.\*\*\* **Jonathan** take a bow and **David & Saul** clap. [Jonathan stands to take a bow, David & Saul clap]

*By Nick Jackson*