

# THE VINE INTER-CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Policy Ratification: JULY 2021

Policy Review: JULY 2025

### Link to The Vine Vision – This is our school

We believe that worship is the beating heart of our school day. Collective worship is another time that we can live our vision and ensure that pupils know “this is our school”. All are welcome in worship, and it is a time in the day that we can all be together to share, grow and explore our “love of God”.

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## Definitions

### Collective worship

**Collective Worship** is a gathering of a collection of people of diverse religious, agnostic and non-religious backgrounds. In our school it refers to a service of worship which is educational and inclusive in its nature. Through collective worship pupils are offered the opportunity to offer worship to God without losing sight of either the different starting points of each of the children, or the need for the act of collective worship to take account of the developmental ages of the children.

### School Assembly

**Assembly** is the gathering of the school community; it is often used to celebrate and focus on the life and values of the community itself but is without religious content. **Collective worship and school assembly are not one and the same thing. They are, in essence, different from each other, but in practice they often overlap.**

## 1 Aims and purpose of collective worship

The aims and purpose of Collective worship are:

- a) to provide an opportunity for the children to learn about Jesus Christ and to worship God;
- b) to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- c) to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- d) to encourage participation and response to the questions and reflections of the worship leader;
- e) to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- f) to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- g) To foster feelings such as awe, wonder, thankfulness, mystery and joy through experiencing Christian worship;
- h) To enable pupils to make effective use of silence for reflection, contemplation and prayer through Christian worship;
- i) To establish, explore, and reinforce the Christian values of the school community such as love, peace, kindness, compassion;
- j) to teach children how to worship;
- k) to celebrate Christian festivals.

## 2. Organisation of Collective worship

2.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship. This is usually in the school hall with the whole school attending. Occasionally, according to need/suitability, we may organize key stage or year group or class worship.

- Monday: Headteachers service: Biblical Advocates (traditional liturgical)
- Tuesday: Worship through song (embracing Methodist and Anglican traditions relating to faith and music)
- Wednesday: Minister led worship (focusing on exploration of the Eucharist and Methodist and Anglican distinctiveness)
- Thursday: Lead learner, worship focuses on how pupils use the talents they have been blessed with
- Friday: Courageous Advocate worship- Here pupils learn how a secular role model fits in with the biblical value of the week and what lessons we can draw from the bible and the secular world in order to "do all the good we can"

2.2 We conduct collective worship in a dignified and respectful way. Pupils enter the hall quietly. Each week there is a SING UP song that is sung as pupils enter and leave. Pupils understand that collective

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worship is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect pupils to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate in reflection and prayer. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other symbolic objects that act as a focal point.

### **Eucharist at The Vine:**

2.3 At the Vine we believe that the Eucharist and the sharing of communion is a special and sacred event. It must be invitational and carries with it very important symbolism that must not be taken lightly.

We offer the Eucharist in a range of ways that are appropriate to the age and mix of our pupils, while still maintaining our belief in the sanctity of the Eucharist.

All pupils are exposed to the Eucharist through weekly worship where the local church explore the concept with the whole school. RE teaching delves deeper into the meaning of the Eucharist and its history in Anglican and Methodist tradition. Pupils at our school eat at round tables to reinforce the Eucharistic message of the value in shared meals and community. We offer invitational sessions for pupils who wish to learn more about the Eucharist and this enables them to be able to understand the traditions of confirmation and communion as a rite of passage.

## **3. Planning collective worship**

### **3.1 The Christian Church**

When planning collective worship we are aware of our Anglican and Methodist Foundation and incorporate elements such as:

- Using the Bible, either as a source book, or as an inspiration for themes and stories
- Observing the Church Year - Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Saints Days
- Learning and saying traditional prayers from a number of sources, in particular the Lord's Prayer
- Singing a wide variety of songs, hymns and carols.
- Using Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning e.g. cross, bread and wine
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection
- Using Psalms with simple responses

### **3.2 Themes**

We take the themes of our collective worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Special events in the Christian church are celebrated with collective worship and friends and families are invited to share these special celebrations with us. Sometimes the themes of our collective worship reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum, for example, stories and reflections that promote the key messages of equality and fairness during Anti-Bullying week.

Our worship is grouped to relate to the Christian values of the school and to ensure that the stories chosen link to examples of the values we aim to instill in pupils.

### **3.3 Collective worship budget**

There is a separate budget to support the development of worship by purchasing resources such as prayer books, candles, Bibles etc.

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#### 4. Record keeping

- 4.1 Collective worship is planned in advance. Value themes are chosen to run over a period of time, for example, half a term. However special events such as Shrove Tuesday or Mothering Sunday are also celebrated.
- 4.2 There is an information leaflet for visiting worship leaders sharing established practice. In addition, a member of the SLT always welcomes visiting worship leaders by introducing them and by supporting the management of the pupils eg: where pupils sit, entering and leaving the hall.
- 4.3 All training for collective worship is recorded and evaluated.
- 4.4 Pupils, parents, staff and the local church is involved in the planning of worship
- 4.5 Worship advocates and values are recorded on the worship display board for pupils and adult.

#### 5. Right of withdrawal

- 5.1 **Pupils:** We expect all pupils to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Parents who wish to withdraw their child from collective worship should discuss their wishes with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors. The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.
- 5.2 **Staff:** Everyone who is appointed to our school is made aware at interview of our church foundation and those appointed are expected to be in sympathy with, and demonstrate their commitment to, our church school foundation. Attending collective worship is a demonstration of this and strengthens the idea that worship is a unifying and cohesive force for the school community.

#### 6. Monitoring and review

- 6.1 Worship leaders regularly reflect on the effectiveness and impact of collective worship. For example, worship plans are annotated to inform further planning.
- 6.2 Governors attending collective worship complete an evaluation that forms part of the evidence base for school self-evaluation.
- 6.3 Pupils' views are sought in a range of ways including through pupil forums and learning walks as part of an on-going cycle of review of all aspects of school life.
- 6.4 It is the role of the Ethos Committee to monitor the policy and practice of the collective worship policy as part of the rolling programme of policy review or as required.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZEmD5RzFF069fJP\\_XOJts8QAxLYvkFVDlQJtp8\\_jO6lUQllOUTdORUNWVOMyVEhDTlcyRORSMzBLNi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZEmD5RzFF069fJP_XOJts8QAxLYvkFVDlQJtp8_jO6lUQllOUTdORUNWVOMyVEhDTlcyRORSMzBLNi4u)

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### Acts of Collective Worship on-line

- [www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools)
- [www.assemblies.org.uk](http://www.assemblies.org.uk)
- [www.culham.ac.uk](http://www.culham.ac.uk)
- [www.bdeducation.org.uk/collective-worship.html](http://www.bdeducation.org.uk/collective-worship.html)
- [talks2children.itsforministry.org/t2c/](http://talks2children.itsforministry.org/t2c/)
- [www.reep.org/cw/](http://www.reep.org/cw/)
- [www.prayingeachday.org/reflect.html](http://www.prayingeachday.org/reflect.html)
- [www.schoolassemblies.btinternet.co.uk/scripcon.htm](http://www.schoolassemblies.btinternet.co.uk/scripcon.htm)

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<b>The Christian Year</b>	
Each Christian festival invites the use of particular collective worship themes, these could include:	
<b>Autumn Term</b>	
<u>First Half of Term</u>	<u>Second Half of Term</u>
Beginnings New friends, new starts, new hope Welcoming, community, belonging Initiation ceremonies Rules of this school & rules of life Rules to live by – the 10 commandments and the two great commandment Harvest Environment, stewardship, conservation Earth, land, sea, Creation Bread, Bread of Life Celebration, thankfulness, sharing, caring Third World need. Famine, drought. Talents & achievements, lifestyles, hopes, thankfulness St Luke (18th October), Medicine Healing, healing miracles of Jesus Disability Famous people connected with medicine Service, working and caring for others	People of Faiths, Saints Patronal saint of parish church All Saints, All Souls Biblical heroes and heroines Today's heroes Christians today, famous and local Remembering War and peace Remembrance Sunday Older people Eucharist Sadness and loss Personal heroes Older people Special memories Advent New church year Preparation, anticipation, hope, waiting The meaning of the candles of the Advent wreath Light Customs Christmas The Christmas story Customs & traditions Christmas in other lands Incarnation Light of the World Love, joy peace, hope Gifts and giving Families and relationships Refugees and homelessness Poverty Messengers Carols

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## Spring Term

<u>First Half of Term</u>	<u>Second Half of Term</u>
<p>New Year New beginnings Fresh start Resolutions Anticipation New life, seasons, Spring Epiphany Gifts and gift bringers Thankfulness Journeys Dedication, baptism, names Candlemas The Light of the World, light Initiation Babies, dedication, hope</p>	<p>Lent &amp; Holy Week Growth - mental, physical, spiritual Special days - Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday Fasting, abstinences, self control, giving-up Spiritual spring cleaning Pilgrimage, spiritual journey Temptation, penitence, saying sorry Conversion of St Paul Forgiveness Foot washing, service to others Last Supper, Eucharist Rejection, loneliness, separation Easter The Easter story Joy, hope, love New life, new beginnings Surprise, triumph, promises, evil, suffering, pain, sacrifice Friendship Repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation, salvation Customs - cards, food, gardens, eggs</p>

## Summer Term

<u>First Half of Term</u>	<u>Second Half of Term</u>
<p>Rogation Community - school, parish, world Establishing boundaries, Homes Creation, caring for the earth Ascension Kingship Authority Symbolism, imagery Saying goodbye</p>	<p>Pentecost Holy Spirit Trinity Fruits of the Spirit Baptism, confirmation Power Birthday gifts Customs Fire Wind</p>

The end of the year - moving on  
Pilgrimage  
Saying thank you  
Explorers, discoveries  
Trust, promises, worry, bravery  
Surprises and disappointments  
Confidence, assurance, prepared  
New class, new school  
Jesus as the Way, the Truth & the Life ("I Am" sayings)  
Memories, learning  
Journey of life  
The Unknown

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Possible Collective Worship Themes
A Bible story - Joseph, Ruth, Paul
Achievements
Barriers and Bridges
Bible heroes /Bible heroines
Bullying
Celebrating Differences
Communication
Creation/Nature/Environment
Different charities
Famous Hymns
Famous Prayers
Forgiveness
Friends and Neighbours
I Believe
Loneliness
Loss
Making Decisions
Making Promises
Ourselves
Parables
Peace
People who have influenced us
Prayer
Prejudice
Saying sorry
Signs and Symbols
Special Books
Stories of Jesus/stories by Jesus/sayings of Jesus
The Church (building and people)
The Gifts of the Spirit
The Lord's Prayer
The Senses
We can help

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## Bible Stories and Collective Worship Themes

Theme	Bible References
Actions count	<i>Genesis 24; Jonah; Matthew 18.23-34; Matthew 25.31-36; Mark 6.14-30; Mark 10.30-37; Mark 12.31-44; John 13.1-20</i>
Authority & Leadership	<i>Genesis 37 -45; I Samuel 8 with 10.17-24; I Samuel 16.1-13; II Kings 18.13-37 &amp; 19.1-36; Nehemiah 1.1-4, 2, 4, 6.1-16; Daniel 3 &amp; 6; Matthew 4.1-11; Matthew 8.5-13; Matthew 21-28; Mark 4.35-41; Mark 9.2-9; Mark 5.1-20; Mark 6.45-52; Mark 11. 1-19; Luke 2.39-52; Luke 6.1-5; Luke 19.28-40; Luke 19.45-48; Luke 20.19-26; Luke 23.1-49; Acts 27.1 - 28.1</i>
Barriers	<i>Genesis 2.4 - 3.24; Genesis 11.1-9; Joshua 6.1-23; Matthew 19.13-27; Mark 2.23 - 3.6; Luke 10.25 -37; Luke 18.35-43; Luke 19.45-48; Acts 10 - 11.18; Acts 19.21 - 20.1</i>
Beginnings (and new beginnings)	<i>Genesis 1 &amp; 2; Genesis 2.4 - 3.24; Genesis 6.5 - 9.29; Genesis 11.31 - 13.18; Genesis 24; Genesis 32.3 - 33.12; II Kings 5; II Kings 22.1-20 &amp; 23.1-25; Nehemiah 1.1-4; 2; 4; 6.1-16; Matthew 3.11-17; Matthew 4.18-22; Matthew 19.13-27; Matthew 21-28; Mark 5.1-20; Luke 18.35-43; John 21.1-14; Acts 10 - 11.18</i>
Belonging	<i>Luke 2.39-52; Matthew 3.11-17; Matthew 7.24-27; Matthew 13.3-8; Luke 15.4 -32</i>
Call	<i>Genesis 11.31 - 13.18; Exodus 2.11 - 3.12; I Samuel 3.1-19; I Samuel 16.16-23; Jeremiah 1.4-19; Jonah; Matthew 4.18-22; Luke 19.1-10; John 21.1-14; Acts 9.1-18; Acts 10 - 11.18</i>
Caring	<i>Exodus 1.8 - 2.10; II Kings 5; Amos; Matthew 9.1-8; Mark 2.1-14; Mark 12.31-44; Luke 10.25 -37; Luke 15.4 -32; John 12.1-8</i>
Changes	<i>Genesis 11.1-9; Genesis 37 - 45; Matthew 19.13-27; Luke 19.1-10; Mark 5.1-20; Acts 10 - 11.18</i>
Commitment	<i>Genesis 11.31 - 13.18; I Samuel 17; II Kings 5; II Kings 22.1-20 &amp; 23.1-25; Jeremiah 38.1-13; Luke 2.39-52; Luke 4.1-13; Luke 21.1-4; Matthew 7.24-27; Matthew 13.3-8; Luke 12.13 -21; Mark 14.66-72; Matthew 21-28; Acts 6.1 - 8.1; Acts 19.21 - 20.1</i>
Community & co-operation	<i>Exodus 19.s 1-20; 20; 24.3-8; Joshua 6.1-23; Judges 6 - 7; II Kings 22.1-20 &amp; 23.1-25; Esther</i>
Courage & conscience	<i>Genesis 2.22 - 3.15; Exodus 2.11 - 3.12; Exodus 5.1-12 with 42; Joshua 2; Judges 7; I Samuel 17; I Kings 19.1-21; II Kings 18.13-37 &amp; 19.1-36; Jeremiah 36 &amp; 38; Nehemiah 1.1-4, 2, 4, 6.1-16; Esther; Daniel 3 &amp; 6; Luke 10.25 -37; Luke 18.35-43; Luke 19.45-48; Mark 14.66-72; Matthew 21-28; Acts 5.12-42; Acts 6.1 - 8.1; Acts 15.1 - 16.40; Acts 20.22 - 25.12; Acts 27.1 - 28.1; Philemon</i>
Deceit & dishonesty	<i>Genesis 27.1-45; Judges 16.4-30; I Kings 21; II Kings 5; mos; Matthew 2.1-12; Mark 14.12-26; Luke 19.1-10; Luke 19.45-48</i>
Doubts & uncertainties (fear)	<i>Exodus 2.11 - 3.12; I Kings 19.1-21; Jeremiah 1.4-19; Jonah; Esther; Matthew 21-28; Mark 4.35-41; Mark 6.45-52; Mark 14.27-52 &amp; 66-72</i>
Dreams and visions	<i>Genesis 32.3 - 33.12; Genesis 37 - 45; I Samuel 3.1-19; I Kings 19.1-21; Jeremiah 1.4-19; Ezekiel 37.1-14; Matthew 2.1-12; Matthew 4.1-11; Mark 9.2-9; Acts 9.1-18; Acts 10 - 11.18</i>
Fairness and justice	<i>Genesis 6.5 - 9.29; I Kings 12.1-16; Esther; Matthew 20.1-16; Luke 19.45-48; Luke 23.1-49</i>
Family; friendship & relationships	<i>Genesis 2.4 - 3.24; Genesis 2.22 - 3.15; Genesis 11.1-9; Genesis 25.27-34 with 27.1-45; Genesis 37 - 45; Exodus 1.8 - 2.10; Ruth; Luke 2.39-52; Luke 19.1-10; Matthew 9.1-8; Mark 2.1-14; Mark 14.66-72; Luke 10.30-37; Luke 15.11-32; John 12.1-8; Acts 10 - 11.18</i>
Favouritism	<i>Genesis 27.1-45; Genesis 37 - 45</i>
Forgiveness	<i>Jonah; Luke 19.1-10; Luke 15.4 -32; Matthew 9.1-8; Matthew 18.23-34; Matthew 21-28; Luke 18.10-14</i>
Foundations	<i>II Kings 22.1-20 &amp; 23.1-25; Matthew 25.31-36; Luke 6.47-49</i>

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Theme	Bible References
for life	
Freedom	<i>Exodus</i> 5.1-12; <i>Exodus</i> 5 - 6.13 & 7.14- 12.51; <i>Luke</i> 6.1-5; <i>Mark</i> 5.1-20; <i>Luke</i> 18.35-43
Good & evil	<i>Genesis</i> 2.4 - 3.24; <i>I Samuel</i> 17; <i>Amos</i> ; <i>Esther</i> ; <i>Matthew</i> 4.1-11; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28; <i>Mark</i> 5.1-20; <i>John</i> 13.1-20
Intolerance	<i>Ruth</i> ; <i>I Kings</i> 12.1-16; <i>Acts</i> 10 - 11.18; <i>Acts</i> 19.21 - 20.1
Jealousy	<i>Genesis</i> 27.1-45; <i>Luke</i> 15.11-32
Journeys	<i>Genesis</i> 11.31 - 13.18; <i>Exodus</i> 5 - 6.13 & 7.14- 12.51; <i>Ruth</i> ; <i>Jonah</i> ; <i>Luke</i> 2.39-52; <i>Luke</i> 10.25 -37; <i>Mark</i> 4.35-41; <i>Luke</i> 19.28-40; <i>Acts</i> 9.1-18; <i>Acts</i> 20.22 - 25.12 <i>Acts</i> 27.1 - 28.1
Light & dark	<i>Genesis</i> 2.4 - 3.24; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28; <i>Acts</i> 15.1- 16.40
Loneliness	<i>Jeremiah</i> 1.4-19; <i>Matthew</i> 4.1-11; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28; <i>Mark</i> 14.66-72; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10; <i>Luke</i> 10.25 -37; <i>Luke</i> 18.35-43; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10
Lost & found	<i>Genesis</i> 37 -45; <i>Luke</i> 2.39-52; <i>Luke</i> 15.4 -32; <i>Philemon</i>
Loyalty	<i>I Samuel</i> 24 & 26; <i>I Kings</i> 12.1-16; <i>I Kings</i> 18.7 - 19.3; <i>II Kings</i> 18.13-37 & 19.1-36; <i>Jeremiah</i> 38.1-13; <i>Mark</i> 2.1-14; <i>Mark</i> 14.66-72; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28
Peer Group Pressure	<i>Judges</i> 16.4-30; <i>Daniel</i> 3; <i>Daniel</i> 6; <i>Matthew</i> 13.3-8; <i>Mark</i> 14.15-72; <i>John</i> 12.1-8
Perseverance	<i>Genesis</i> 11.31 - 13.18; <i>I Kings</i> 19.4-18; <i>II Kings</i> 5; <i>Nehemiah</i> 1.1-4; 2; 4; 6.1-16; <i>Esther</i> ; <i>Daniel</i> 3 & 6; <i>Luke</i> 15.4 -32; <i>Luke</i> 18.35-43; <i>Matthew</i> 8.5-13; <i>Luke</i> 8.43-46; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28; <i>Mark</i> 2.1-14; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10; <i>Acts</i> 10 - 11.18; <i>Acts</i> 20.22 - 25.12
Prayer	<i>I Samuel</i> 3.1-19; <i>I Kings</i> 18.7 - 19.3; <i>I Kings</i> 19.4-18; <i>Luke</i> 18.10-24
Precious things & gifts	<i>Matthew</i> 13.45f; <i>Matthew</i> 19.13-27; <i>Matthew</i> 20.1-16; <i>Mark</i> 12.31-44; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10; <i>Luke</i> 21.1-4; <i>Luke</i> 12.13 -21; <i>Luke</i> 15.4 -32; <i>John</i> 12.1-8
Promises (including covenant)	<i>Genesis</i> 6.5 - 9.29; <i>Exodus</i> 2.11 - 3.12; <i>Exodus</i> 19.1-20; 24.3-8; <i>I Samuel</i> 16.16-23; <i>II Kings</i> 22.1-20 & 23.1-25; <i>Ezekiel</i> 37.1-14; <i>Mark</i> 14.66-72; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10
Renewal or Repentance	<i>II Kings</i> 22.1-20 & 23.1-25; <i>Ezekiel</i> 37.1-14; <i>Luke</i> 15.11-32; <i>Luke</i> 19.1-10; <i>Luke</i> 15.4 -32; <i>Philemon</i>
Rules & laws	<i>Exodus</i> 19.1-20; 20; 24.3-8; <i>I Kings</i> 12.1-16; <i>II Kings</i> 22.1-20 & 23.1-25; <i>Mark</i> 2.23 - 3.6; <i>Luke</i> 6.1-5
Signs; symbols & symbolic actions	<i>Genesis</i> 6.5 - 9.29; <i>Exodus</i> 2.11 - 3.12; <i>Joshua</i> 6.1-23; <i>I Samuel</i> 16.1-13; <i>I Kings</i> 19.4-18; <i>Jeremiah</i> 1.4-19; <i>Jeremiah</i> 36 & 38; <i>Matthew</i> 3.11-17; <i>Matthew</i> 21-28; <i>Mark</i> 4.35-41; <i>Mark</i> 11.15-19; <i>Luke</i> 19.28-40; <i>Luke</i> 19.45-48; <i>Luke</i> 20.19-26; <i>John</i> 13.1-20; <i>Acts</i> 10 - 11.18
Speaking up	<i>I Kings</i> 18.7 - 19.3; <i>Jeremiah</i> 19.1-20; <i>Jeremiah</i> 36 & 38; <i>Daniel</i> 3; <i>Daniel</i> 6; <i>Matthew</i> 5.14f; <i>Mark</i> 14.15-72; <i>Luke</i> 2.39-52; <i>Luke</i> 20.19-26; <i>Acts</i> 5.12-42; <i>Acts</i> 6.1 - 8.1; <i>Acts</i> 15.1- 16.40; <i>Acts</i> 20.22 - 25.12
Temptation	<i>Matthew</i> 4.1-11; <i>Mark</i> 14.66-72; <i>Luke</i> 4.1-13
Trust	<i>Genesis</i> 11.31 - 13.18; <i>Genesis</i> 21.1-3 & 22.1-19; <i>Joshua</i> 2; <i>Judges</i> 7; <i>I Samuel</i> 17; <i>II Kings</i> 18.13-37 & 19.1-36; <i>Jeremiah</i> 38.1-13; <i>Daniel</i> 3; <i>Matthew</i> 4.18-22; <i>Matthew</i> 8.5-13; <i>Matthew</i> 9.1-8; <i>Mark</i> 4.35-41; <i>Mark</i> 5.1-20; <i>Luke</i> 12.13 -21; <i>Luke</i> 18.35-43; <i>Acts</i> 27.1 - 28.1; <i>Philemon</i>