



*A Journey in
Love*

Year 3: How we live in love

Parent Information

PARENTS

Things you could do at home:

- Talk to your children about people who care for them in different communities to which they belong.
- Look at photographs of your child taken over the years and note the changes in their growth and development.
- Think about ways of growing healthily and keeping safe, eg. eating healthily, regular exercise, rules of the road, school rules, positive relationships, community involvement etc.
- Discuss friendships and ways that we can help make our friendships stronger, recognising the importance of taking turns, sharing and listening to other people's views.

Generous God,

Bless and care those who take care of us.

Bless our friends and help us to be better friends.

Forgive us for the times we have not been a true friend.

Thank you for our friends and bless our time together.

Amen.

YEAR 3

Children will know and understand the virtues essential to friendship, eg. loyalty, responsibility etc. They will experience the importance both of forgiving and being forgiven and of celebrating God's forgiveness.

Skills: listening / observing / relating / speaking / respecting / reflecting / praying / understanding

Physical: Children will discuss who takes care of them, how they look after themselves and begin to think about how they are changing.

Social: Children will think about how they keep themselves safe, how they help others to make and keep friends and how they take care of others.

Emotional: Children will reflect on how they feel when a friend is not there for them, how their friends feel when they are not there for them and how they can be a more supportive friend.

Intellectual: Children will recognise the difference between being alone and being lonely and recognizing the need for personal privacy like personal space.

Spiritual: Children will reflect on the story of Zacchaeus and how, although he was an outcast, Jesus accepted him as a friend, welcomed and forgave him. They will think about how they can forgive and include others as Jesus did.



Introduction: This resource has as its foundational premise the belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God and, as a consequence, gender and sexuality are God's gift, reflect God's beauty and share in the divine creativity.

In order that children may grow and develop healthily and holistically towards an understanding of their gender and its implications for successful relationships, they must be at ease with themselves and grow in self knowledge.

Children are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love. The programme focuses on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.



Foreword: At the heart of the Christian faith is love, St John says that God is love (1 John 4:8) and the whole purpose of Christianity is to live it as fully as possible in and through love. This means we have to link every aspect of our being, from birth to death, with love.

The alliance of the fullness of ourselves with love links us with God the Father, through Jesus Christ his Son, and through the Spirit. Jesus accepted himself totally in the incarnation and made himself fully available to the world and to each and every one of us, especially on the Cross, the pinnacle of his love.

Parents and teachers are privileged to assist children every moment of their lives to further this link of love with their humanity and thus with God. The programme outlined in a Journey in Love is a brilliant reconciliation between the human and divine aspects of love and is truly fully Christian in its vision.

The vision is none other than the Kingdom of God, summed up by Jesus in the double commandments of loving God and our neighbour as ourselves.

Dr Jack Dominian

