

A RESOURCE FOR CHURCHES & LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Drama Workshop

Pilgrimage - Emmaus Road

Poem and Workshop written and created by Caroline Bailey.

This was planned to take place in Truro Cathedral, but please use the resource in any way you like in your setting.





1) SHOW CHILDREN A PICTURE OF THE TERRACOTTA FRIEZE 'THE WAY OF THE CROSS' BY GEORGE TINWORTH EXHIBITED 1880. PRESENTED TO TRURO CATHEDRAL IN 1902.

- Talk about what we can see going on.
- Two centurions force Simon of Cyrene to help carry the cross.
- A centurion tries to quell a disturbance in the crowd accompanying the cross.
- One of the two thieves, chained at the ankles and waist, looks back, maybe hearing Jesus as he addresses the daughters of Jerusalem in the middle.
- Jesus as the central figure with the women 'daughters of Jerusalem' listening to every word, 'Jesus turning to them said, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children'. Luke 23: 28
- Note how the clay has been carved to show a 'moment in time' like a photograph or a painting. But it tells a whole story, and shows all the feelings of the characters, the drama.

2) TELL THE EMMAUS ROAD STORY AND EXPLAIN THAT WE WILL BE FOCUSING ON ONE PART OF THE STORY.

3) WARM UP

- Walk into spaces.
- When I call a word describing a feeling, freeze in a shape for that word.
- Vary levels/ directions.

4) GROUP EXPLORATION (SEE NEXT PAGE)

5) SET MOVEMENTS AGAINST THE TEXT.

NB

To perform – group 1 starts, then freezes. Group 2 joins on their section, then freezes and continue until all four groups are in a living 'frieze' to echo the terracotta one in the Cathedral.

GROUP 1

Walking - sadness, hard times, keeping going when its tough, friendship.

Explore heavy, dragging walking ideas Try draping arms over each other in pairs Drooping

Slowly rise into a standing pose looking at the 'stranger'

Walking. Nothing more than placing one heavy tread after the next. Weighed down and weary, Dreary trudge dragging forwards, Despair draped. But, we walked. And a Stranger walked with us.

GROUP 2

Talking - sharing our stories, our feelings, anger, sorrow, disbelief... being listened to.

Mirroring in pairs/ taking it turns to make a movement, then the other to respond with something new.

Try some twisting and interweaving movements in pairs/ movements to show grief and anger.

Talking.

Revisiting the story. Each twist and turn explored, Outpoured our grief, our disbelief. Not one fact or feeling ignored. The stranger listened, then Spoke.

GROUP 3



Breaking open movements - stacatto Flame movements - fluid Freeze – questioning pose - still

Movements to show walking along a tunnel by torchlight, like going down a mine?! In threes, clinging, holding shapes – freeze!

He spoke, broke open the Word, Awoke and kindled a flame of hope That burned within our hearts. Who was this man? His words were living and lit our way, Excavated our understanding. We couldn't let him go, Clung to this spark, Implored him to stay.

GROUP 4

Communion. Breaking bread. Shock. Recognition. Joy. Gasp, speechless! Sitting in a circle.

Mime eating, drinking, talking - companionship, sharing food, laughter, comfort. Place arms around each other in a 'huddle'

Jesus character stands (tallest!) Mimes breaking bread, like Communion. Others all stare up, slowly rise around the central figure – shock/ recognition On 'silence settled' all silently turn, reach, place one hand on 'Jesus' – joy/ speechless The group form a shape to obscure Jesus, showing joy! Jesus disappears!

Eating.

Grouped around the table, Food and wine enabled Solace in our emptiness, Comfort in togetherness. Hum of voices rising, falling away as.... He took the bread, gave thanks and broke it. Silence settled. In the stillness, recognition. And in one Drop of distilled comprehension, He was made known. Then gone.

ALL

Slow motion running/ freeze with look of joy!!

Running. Ground pounding, feet thumping, Heart sounding, blood pumping Back we ran. Returning with revelation breaking, Aching hearts replaced with joy bursting Relay running (group 1 'baton pass' freeze) Retell His coming... (group 2 'cupped hands, shouting') Relate the story (group 3 'opening a book') Translated into unimaginable glory... (group 4 'arms raised')

The Scriptures (Group 1 – 'opening a book') the Bread (Group 2 – 'break the bread high') the Life (Group 3 – 'clasp hands') the Word (Group 4 – 'thank you in sign language') Broken open and made known. (All open arms wide like a cross, then place hands on head & heart) We're home. (hug self or someone else!)

Please contact Jane Wheeler if you have questions or if you need some advice by emailing **jane.wheeler@newstreetchurch.org**

You can find other Pilgrim Explorer routes here: trurodiocese.org.uk/whats-on/pilgrim-explorers/

DON'T FORGET TO POST & TAG YOUR PHOTOS ON INSTAGRAM: #PILGRIMEXPLORERS

