

Year C - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 19: 1-10

I See You



Overview

Ignatian prayer uses the imagination to picture yourself in the scripture and let God speak to you as you pray with it. This reflection uses imaginative prayer to pray with the story of Zacchaeus and Jesus by placing ourselves in the story.

Pray - Using Scripture

Invite the children to lie or sit quietly and comfortably with their eyes closed. Then begin:

It's hot and dusty. There are lots of crowds around. You can hear the people saying that Jesus is coming down the road! How does it feel? You have wanted to meet Jesus for a long time! You've heard so much about him! You push through the crowd to get to the front but it doesn't matter how hard you try you just can't seem to find a place where you will be able to see Jesus! You know he's coming closer and closer so you have to act quickly! You look around to see if there is anything that can help!

Just then you spot a Sycamore tree. These are great climbing trees and you know you'll be able to see him from up high! You run to the tree and you begin to climb. The bark is a bit rough but you don't care, you just want to see Jesus! Finally, you see the perfect branch, it's strong and straight and it will be great to sit on. You get comfortable on the branch. Wow! Now you can see Jesus perfectly! He is coming down the road, stopping here and there to talk to people and to bless them. Everyone is smiling and excited. Every time he stops to talk to someone, they begin to shine with love!

Now you can see Jesus going back to the middle of the road. He's looking around from one side of the road to the other. You realise he's looking for someone - for someone in particular. You wonder who that person might be? Jesus keeps walking down the road, he's eyes looking here and there, then he looks up to your tree. Jesus looks right at you! He has the biggest smile as he looks at you! You realise that you are the one he's been searching for! He walks right up to the tree where you are and he says your name. It sounds so amazing to hear Jesus say your name. He tells you to come down from the tree so you can spend time together. The crowds can all just wait, this is a time just for you and Jesus.

*Jesus wants to listen to everything you want to say to him (pause)
Now he has some things to tell you. Listen as he speaks to you (pause)*

Jesus says bye for now and the crowd gets noisy again. But your heart feels so full and happy to have spent this time with Jesus and the best thing is that you know that you can chat with Jesus anytime.

Give the children a moment to 'wake up' and then invite them to share their chat with Jesus if they wish to.