

Short Talk

(SHT176)

Learning from our Remembering

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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SHORT TALK: “Learning from our remembering”

- Aim of Short talk:** To encourage people to remember what happened during the world wars, and to learn from those who put other people’s needs first.
- Use of Short talk:** This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
- Main themes:** Remembrance, Loving others, Sacrifice, Selfishness, Resurrection
- Biblical references:** Luke 20:27-38
- Lectionary:** Remembrance Sunday, Year C – The third Sunday before Advent
- Props:** You will need 3 completely different chairs positioned at the front of church facing towards the congregation as follows:
- A very comfortable chair eg an armchair if possible
 - Two very uncomfortable chairs eg hard plastic chairs

.....

I need three children to come and help me please. *(Receive your volunteers and stand them in front of the chairs.)*

As you can see, there are 3 chairs in front of you;

- a very comfortable chair and
- two not so comfortable chairs.
- I want you to think to yourself: “Which chair would I rather sit on?” PAUSE

Now after I count to three, I want you to run and sit on the chair that you have chosen for yourself.

- Only one person per chair.
- It’s a bit like musical chairs....
- 1,2,3, go! *(Children sit on 3 chairs)*

What a surprise.....

- The most comfortable chair is the one that most/all *(choose appropriate word)* of you wanted to sit on.

OK everybody get off their chairs as we play the game again. *(Children get off the chairs and stand in front of them again)*

This time I want you to think to yourself: "Which chair would the other two children rather sit on? So which chair shall I take?"

- That's a bit harder isn't it?
- After 3, I want you to make your choice. 1,2,3, go *(Children sit on 3 chairs)*

Well done....

- Thank you for helping me.....please stay where you are.

Now today it is Remembrance Sunday;

- a day to look back and remember those who fought for our freedom in the wars that our country has been involved in.

In any war that is fought, we can see that there are two types of people involved.

- There is one group of people who often start wars.
- These people want power or control, more money or more land or they want to prove that their country is the best.
- These people put what they want first.....
- A bit like choosing the best chair today.

The second group of people are those who don't start wars but who have had to fight for the good of other people.

- These people put what other people need first....
- A bit like allowing others to have the best chair today.

Today we will be remembering and honouring and giving thanks to God for this second group of people, who fought for our freedom.

- Many of these people gave up their lives so that we can enjoy the life we lead today.

But as well as remembering these people, I want to encourage us to learn from them.

- Let's learn from their example of putting other people's needs first.
- Let's be people who don't put what we want first but think about what others need first.
- We can do that at home, at school, at work or wherever we are.

If we follow these people's example of putting other people's needs first, then we will be following the example of Jesus.

- Jesus, who gave up His life so that we can live with God forever in new and resurrection life.

Which group of people will you learn from this Remembrance Sunday? *(Send children back to their seats)*