

Early Years Foundation Stage

Unit title: **Stories and what they tell us:**

The Lost Coin

Context

- Jesus told stories to explain how everyone is important to God
- The Lost Coin is one of a series of stories, others being The Lost Son and The Lost Sheep
- The stories are found in the Christian Bible, in the Gospel of Luke
- The stories show that God cares about anyone who is 'lost'

Key underlying ideas/concepts

- **Specialness:** Christians believe that everyone is special to God
- **Relationships:** if people are special, then we, and God, care about them
- **Lost and found:** the sadness of losing something; the joy of finding what was lost

Links to Early Learning Goals

- Personal, social and emotional development: spiritual development
- Knowledge and understanding of the world: cultures and beliefs
- Communication, language and literacy: Language for Thinking

Main elements of the unit

- **Teacher's experience of losing something special**

Suggestions for practical activities

Teacher pretends to have lost something special

- talks about his/her feelings.
- Asks the children to help find it.

- **Read the story of the Ten Silver Coins**
Use story sack

Read the story and ask questions eg.

- How did the woman feel when she lost one of her ten coins? Why did the lost one matter when she still had nine? How did she feel when she found her lost coin? What did she do to celebrate?

- **Make links between the children's experience and the story**

Talk with the children about times when they have experienced something similar

- eg. when they have lost and found something/someone special to them

- **Explore the meaning of the story and if appropriate the message for Christians**

Talk with the children about how everyone in the class is important for different reasons

- Discuss how if one person was missing, everyone would feel sad and we need everyone present to feel like a proper class.
If appropriate, make links with the meaning of the story for Christians, that every person is important to God

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Key questions to ask

- How do I feel if I lose something special/ if I 'lose' my mum/dad when out shopping?
- What does it feel like to search for what is lost?
- What does it feel like when you find what is lost?
- How would you celebrate your good news?

Story sack

- Story: The Ten Silver Coins story by Nick Butterworth & Mick Inkpen (Collins Picture Lions)
- Ten silver coins
- Purse: to hold the coins
- Telephone : to tell the good news