



## Worship with Us

Learning and Loving  
Together Forever

<p><b>Week 6/12/21-14/1/22</b></p>	<p><b>Core Value</b> Focus Justice and equality</p>
<p><b>Scripture Link</b>          “Learn to do right, seek justice and defend the oppressed”          Isaiah 1:17</p>	<p><b>Message from the Principal</b>          “May we seek out those who need a helping friend today no matter who they are”          This is a very important promise in our values prayer as we approach the Christmas season. Christmas is a time of celebration, joy and love, where we get to spend quality time with the people that we value most.          However, we also pause to think of those less fortunate, who may have lost loved ones this year, or who may not be in a positive position in life currently. We hold out the hand of friendship by collecting for our local foodbanks. Although Covid regulations are still preventing our Boxing Day Brunch event, we look forward to the time when we can invite you all, our friends and loved ones, back to celebrate with us at Christmastime.          Merry Christmas from all of us here at QEA!</p>
<p><b>Message from the Chaplain</b>          At QEA we are proud of our diverse school community. We want each student to fulfil their God given potential. We look out for one another and there is no better time for kindness and goodwill than Christmas. Christmas looks different in different countries even in different houses in our own country. My dad is from Spain and we looked forward to gifts from our Spanish friends and family in January, usually special Spanish food. Dia de los Reyes (day of the kings) was something that reminded me that Christmas traditions are different round the world. - The first Christmas was certainly a far cry from what it is today. Jesus was born into the family of a joiner/builder and would have learned the trade from his earthly father Joseph. When Jesus was presented at the temple as a baby his family brought a dove as an offering which was acceptable by law for those who didn't have much. The striking thought is that God's own Son was born in a place for animals and grew up without wealth, hospitals or privilege.</p>	<p><b>Discussion points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Our community is based on equal value of all students. What kind of difference does it make to know that we are valued equally?</li> <li>✓ How can we show others that we value them? (Isaiah 1:17)</li> <li>✓ How is Christmas celebrated in your house/family?</li> <li>✓ Christmas comes with challenges and Jesus knew great challenges in his life. What helps you face challenges? How can faith help?</li> <li>✓ Think about how the love of God took injustice and turned it round. Consider what injustices you would pray for God to 'turn around' right now.</li> </ul>

The striking injustice of Jesus' life was not his poverty but his death at the hands of Pontius Pilate (who tried to wash his hands of Jesus). And yet Christians believe that Jesus rose again defeating death and paying for the sins of the world. In this Christians see the injustice of Jesus death but recognise the equality of love that a loving, giving and forgiving God has for the whole world.

A famous passage from the bible reads:  
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16

✓ Reflect on the Gospel message of God's love for all in John 3:16

**A prayer for justice and equality**

Jesus thank you that you love us all equally

Help us to care for one another with that same love

May we seek justice

May we seek out those who need a helping friend today no matter who they are

**All:** For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice (Psalm 11:7)

Amen