

Worship with Us

Learning and Loving
Together Forever

Week: 11.12.23-19.1.24	Core Value Focus: Justice & Equality
<p>Scripture Link: “Learn to do right, seek justice and defend the oppressed” Isaiah 1:17</p>	<p>Message from the Principal: Developing character is an important part of our work here at Queen Elizabeth's. Of our 9 core values, we are particularly proud of Justice and Equality. We have invested time and attention to our charity work to help the less fortunate in our community and to help “defend the oppressed”. Currently we are supporting the Baptist Church's Bags of Hope initiative. This is an important opportunity for all our students to come together as a community and collect for this important food bank project. Each tutor group is collecting as many “bags of hope” as possible. Our students have supported us admirably and have certainly learned “to do right”. Like the Parable of the Good Samaritan, which inspires our vision, we do not walk by, we stop, and we help. As we move closer to the Christmas break we will hold a non-uniform day on the last day of term, again in support of our local food bank. Please do send in your child/ren in non-uniform or Christmas clothing, along with a tin or packet for the collection. If you are interested in helping to support these amazing projects please do contact us. Sending all our families a merry Christmas.</p>
<p>Message from the Chaplain:</p> <p>Without equality there can be no justice. It is the equality of each human that demands justice and it is our longing for justice that drives us to stand up and stand out to achieve it. The Christian faith teaches that every human has been made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). This is one of the strongest religious motivations for justice and equality. When God sent His son Jesus</p>	<p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is our motivation to stand up for justice and equality?• What difference does it make that Jesus came and lived amongst us and experienced injustice?• Why would God allow Jesus to be born to a poor family and laid in a manger, not even born in his own house?

we see that he was poor and eventually suffered great injustice and was killed for claims about his identity, claiming to be the son of God. Most people would expect the son of God to be born in a palace not placed in a manger. But Jesus identified with everyday people, he took time to know his community, his disciples. He had real friends (and enemies) and cared about individuals, equally. Jesus never travelled beyond his own country, never held political office never owned a business or property yet His teaching, His life, His death have impacted the world for good promoting justice. Jesus claimed he came to 'give his life a ransom for many' The core message of the Christian faith is that God knows our failures and our hardships and came to live among us offering us a relationship with him by being forgiven through Jesus' sacrifice.

- Reflect on the Christian belief that God knows each of our situations and offers hope.
- What difference does it make to our communities when we stand together to help?
- Jesus was poor but he changed the world, how did he do this?
- How can we change our communities through our attitude and our effort even without power or finances?

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