



Years 7 and 8 classroom resources

Engaging with the gospel – Luke 10: 1–20

Scripture is never a one-way encounter. It is a complex meeting place of ordinary people and God. Making sense of Scripture is an ongoing process of reading with 'fresh eyes', engaging in dialogue with each other, and being open to how God might be revealed to us through this encounter.

We can also engage with the different worlds of the text to achieve this – in other words, the time, place and circumstances of the origins of the text(s) we are engaging with. We can look to how different people in the Tradition and beyond have engaged with this text, what meaning have they drawn from it in their reading, and how it compares to what we find when we read.

Let's engage with the gospel reading that will be a part of our Catholic Education Week ceremonies in 2022.

The three stages of this reading will involve:

- reading with fresh eyes
- reflecting on the dialogue/dialogue with others
- exploring the text further.

Reading with fresh eyes

Invite students to read Luke 10: 1–20 and note down their thoughts after they have finished reading. Ask students to consider the following questions:

- What is happening in this text?
- What is not clear or is challenging about what you read?
- What image do you have in your mind after reading?
- What do you wonder about what you read?

Reflecting on the dialogue/dialogue with others

The aim of dialogue is to understand the ideas, perspectives or questions of others. We have to be open to not only sharing our own thoughts but also paying close attention to what others have to say.

Ask students to form small groups (two to four students per group) and share their insights from their reading of Luke. Ensure everyone has the chance to share what they were thinking as they read and what wonderings emerged for them.

Encourage students to be curious. They should build on what others in their group have said or ask them to clarify if they are unsure. You might give them specific prompts or directions for how this dialogue will need to work, to help it to be more successful.

After their group work, invite students to share with the class what new ideas, perspectives or questions arose for them. They might also record these in a written reflection.

Exploring the text further

Now have students consider the following questions:

- What is a gospel and how might this text connect?
- What else do you already know/can you find out about the background to Luke's Gospel? (For example, when was it most likely written? For whom?)
- How else have others engaged with this text? What have they said about it?
- What new insights, ideas and questions emerge, the more you engage, read or find out?
- When you re-read this text, what do you think is at the heart of it?
- What does it reveal about Jesus or God?
- The reading for Catholic Education Week excludes verses 13–16. Does this change or affect our reading of this text? Why or why not?