

35.2 You can do it

(with a little encouragement)
Based on Episode 35: Spies and Lies



Learning objectives:

- To consider the importance of encouragement
- To think about who we can encourage

RE Links:

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| England: | 3p) <i>considering a range of human experiences and feelings</i> |
| Isle of Man | 4Fi) <i>Miracles of Jesus – When do I need other people?</i> 5E) <i>Rules to live by – What extra responsibilities do we have when we belong to a group?</i> |
| Northern Ireland: | <i>The life of Jesus: the ministry of Jesus</i> |
| Scotland: | <i>Development of beliefs and values: RME 2-09d</i> <i>Catholic schools: Catholic Christianity: Son of God: RERC 2-05a</i> |
| Wales: | <i>the importance that religion places on personal relationships and concern for others</i> |

Stimulus material:

Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 35: *This lesson is based on the second half of the episode from 09:30 mins when Marcus has finished talking to the Senate.*

Bible reference for the main story:

Jesus heals a paralysed man
Mark 2:1-12

Other resources required:

Copies of Worksheet 35.2a
Copies of Worksheet 35.2b
Equipment for a small race in the classroom, e.g., tennis racquet and ball, egg and spoon, beanbags to balance on head, etc.

Introduction:

Set up a small 'race' in the classroom (or go outside) – ideally something simple but challenging, e.g., balancing a tennis ball on a tennis racquet, an egg and spoon, balancing beanbags on heads.

Ask for three volunteers to complete the short race. To make it worthwhile the race may need to involve several 'laps'. Before the race begins, ask the racers to wait outside whilst you brief the other pupils. Ask that the other pupils do not look directly at the competitors or offer them any encouragement. They should not praise their achievements but shouldn't be rude either.

Begin the race.

Once the race is over, ask the competitors how they felt. Was anything missing from the race? Then ask the pupils to describe how the competitors looked during the race. You may like to use Worksheet 35.2a as the basis for this.

Repeat the race, with the same competitors, but this time allow the other pupils to offer encouragement and support whilst they race.

Once the race is over, ask the pupils to think again about how the competitors looked during the race. Did they look differently or respond differently? Why?

Ask the competitors which race they preferred and why.



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Activities:

Tell the pupils that in this episode of Friends and Heroes, Jesus is amazed by some friends who encourage each other to achieve something incredible!

Show Friends and Heroes DVD Episode 35: Spies and Lies from 09:30 mins when Marcus has finished talking at the Senate to the end.

Ask the pupils for feedback and answer the following questions:

- What was amazing about what the friends did?
- Why do you think they did it?
- How must other people have felt when they saw what Jesus had done for the man?

Emphasise that the friends must have worked together and encouraged each other because they had had to tackle a tricky task. Carrying the man on the bed would have been physically demanding, as would creating the hole in the roof. They would have needed to encourage each other to keep going, especially when they were tired. The same was true of Macky and Portia when they were trying to escape from the soldiers.

Reflection / Personal search / Response:

Remind the pupils that it was Felix who told the story about the group of friends who lowered the man down through the roof. It was his encouragement that spurred Macky and Portia on to try and help Antonius. Friends can be very important in encouraging us to try new things and to achieve the things we want to.

Ask the pupils to spend some time reflecting on two things:

1. Is there something that they particularly want to achieve? Are there people they could ask to encourage them in this?
2. Is there someone that they could encourage?

If appropriate, you might like to ask the pupils to complete Worksheet 35.2b – it provides an opportunity to think about something that they would like to achieve; how they might do it and who they might ask to help and encourage them.

Assessment / reporting:

Can pupils explain why encouragement helps others?

Links to other subject areas:

SEAL - Getting on and falling out: Relationships – thinking about the effect that encouragement can have on others

SEAL - Going for Goals – thinking about things that we would like to do and how we are going to achieve them

Creative/other - Roman senate

Creative/other - Link race to PE – you could adapt the lesson to use whatever your current PE topic is.

Worksheet 35.2a

Write down words or draw pictures to describe how the competitors look whilst they are racing in Race 1.



Write down words or draw pictures to describe how the competitors look whilst they are racing in Race 2.



Name:

Date:

Worksheet 35.2b

Encouragement

I would really like to:

I am going to achieve this by:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

The people I am going to ask to help and encourage me are:

