

## In my place...

- *Could I have a large bag filled with scrunched up newspaper over my back the whole time?*
- How can I illustrate "in my place"?
  - told examples - party, measles, someone in my place; ticket, concert, hurt self, someone went in my place and sat in my seat; someone has taken my piece of apple pie from the fridge, ate it instead of me! playing football for the school, tired, taken off and someone took my place...
  - puzzle type "in place of" - substituting letters for patterns - on a flip chart - "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor 15:3)
  - response story - substituting sounds/actions for words
- Finish by telling them something of the story, where we've got to in Jerusalem as Jesus is arrested, and how Barabbas was already in prison for really bad stuff he'd done - alluding to the response story
  - refer forward to the reading from the Bible
  - we'll pray and then sing before we read from the Bible

## ...he died for me

- Recap on story:
  - what happened?
- Explain story:
  - naughty things we've done deserve to be punished
  - that's like a burden we can't get rid of ourselves
  - but Jesus comes and takes the burden onto himself
  - as a result we can be God's friends!
- Introduce making of the Cross bookmarks and/or stand-up crosses
- *Having set kids off on that, talk to adults!*
- Zoom in on Barabbas!
  - remember Richard Baxter doing radio monologue from his perspective at New College!
  - what was it like to stumble out of prison, free because someone else has died?
  - what's it like, even, to have someone rescue you from a fire and not make it themselves?
- In Romans 3:24,25, Paul uses three images of what happened on the Cross:
  - (i) justified (law) (ii) redeemed (slavery) (iii) atone/turn aside wrath

(altar)

- though each image is distinct, and brings a different layer or nuance to the picture, there is a common theme
- how did God justify? how did God redeem? how did God atone?
- in each case by **Jesus being in the place where we should be!**
  
- Judge declares guilty... then comes and takes punishment
- Outsider pays for our freedom... but only capital they have is their own life/value!
- Priest needs to offer sacrifice to cover sin... but offers himself
  
- We couldn't do it on our own!
  - we can't boast
  - we can't have a bad start to the week and try harder for the second half of the week and expect it to make any difference!
- He went through something we couldn't survive - so that we might live!