**Grace Collective Worship – Teacher guidance**

**Gathering**

**Slide 1**

Worship begins with music as the children are entering: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKyWRsH5gcI> This worship song is about our duty to follow the example of Jesus in reaching out to people whether they deserve us to or not. Begin the worship by lighting a candle and following the school’s usual gathering routine.

**Engaging**

**Slide 2**

Explain to the children that in today’s worship we are going to explore an important Christian value that we call ‘Grace’.

**Slide 3**

Grace is a little bit more of a complicated idea than some other values that we’ve talked about. Sometimes it is a name for a person (picture of Grace Darling) or sometimes it can be used to describe the way someone moves or dances but when we talk about it as a Christian value, it has a different meaning. (The ballerina is Misty Copeland, who is currently one of the leading ballerinas in the world.)

**Slide 4-12**

I’m going to tell you about a very important person in the story of Christianity to help us to understand what grace means. Work through the slides to tell the story of St Paul, the basic outline of the story is at the top of each slide.

**Slide 13**

Paul knew that he didn’t really deserve God to be kind to him and save him from being such a cruel person but God had been kind to him anyway. Paul called this special kind of kindness ‘God’s Grace’. Paul went on to write many of the Christian books of the Bible, which tell us about God and how God wants us live. Paul said that God shows us all grace – kindness when we don’t really deserve it – so that we can spread God’s grace in the world. The slide shows a quote from one of Paul’s books in the Bible, it means that only God’s grace saves us from selfishness and God want us to share that grace with others.

**Responding**

**Slide 15**

Use the images to promote a discussion of how we can show grace toward each other.

**Sending**

**Slide 16**

In one of his books in the Bible, Paul, who we heard about earlier, said that ‘Grace changes everything.’ Ask the children to take a moment to reflect on the question of how they can show grave in their own lives. Ask them to decide on one thing that they could do in the week ahead to change the world through grace.

**Slide 17**

This is a well-known blessing that Paul ended one of his books with (2 Corinthians) and which Christians often say together at the end of meetings. Invite the children to say it with you as a closing prayer.

Play the piece of music from the beginning of worship again as children leave.