

Shed for Lent

Station Six - wild animals & angels

Story:

- Jesus stays in the wilderness with the angels and the wild animals

Focus:

- Jesus is still thinking and choosing. He is getting ready to begin his work.

Scene:

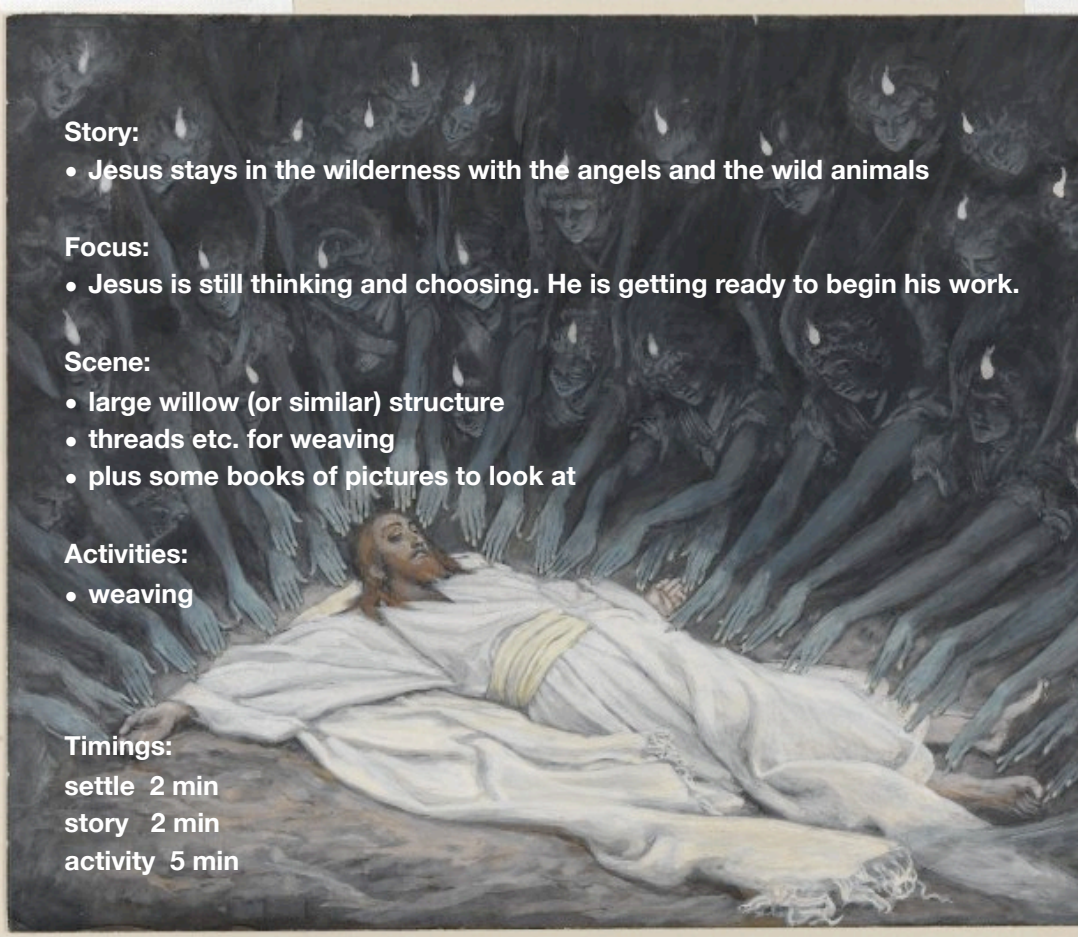
- large willow (or similar) structure
- threads etc. for weaving
- plus some books of pictures to look at

Activities:

- weaving

Timings:

- settle 2 min
- story 2 min
- activity 5 min



Things to bear in mind

- help the children take their time over the weaving, but don't impose a meaning on the action
- think through how you will gather the children when it is time to go to the Poustinia room
- model the weaving yourself by participating
- you could also talk to the children about what has interested them on this journey, but be sensitive to children who want to be quiet
- the books of pictures are an extra back-up for those who are not very interested in weaving, or do it very quickly

Text for Story

Jesus finished struggling with these questions:

Shall I be empty or full?

Shall I be famous or trustworthy?

Shall I be powerful or shall I be a servant?

When he had made up his mind about these choices, there might have been many more questions that filled his mind. He stayed in the desert for many days, with the wild animals and with the angels.

The wild animals had always lived in the desert, and perhaps he could learn from them where to find water and shelter from the wind.

Angels are messengers from God - they bring light, hope and comfort. They came to Jesus, but they didn't take him out of the desert and they didn't answer his questions for him.



Jesus stayed in the desert for forty days. And when he had worked out some answers, enough answers, then it was time to go back to the towns and cities and begin the work of his life.

Introduction to Activity

It's nearly time for you to leave the desert, too. But before you do, we are going to add some things to this shelter. The shelter itself is a bit like a Poustinia. Jesus rested with the wild animals and the angels, and we have threads here that you can weave into the shelter which are like the animals' fur, and we have feathers here which are maybe like the angels' wings. Take a moment to choose one or two things and have a good look at them.

These things can be a sign of a prayer or a thought. They are also a sign that you are here and that you have made this journey, and when you weave them into the shelter they link up with everyone else who is making this journey this week. We are travelling together.

Take your time to carefully weave in your thread or feather.

There are also some books of pictures you may like to look at - they are mostly paintings people have made when they were trying to imagine what it was like for Jesus to be in the desert.



Materials you need:

willow or similar shelter
threads and feathers
booklets of paintings

Preparation:

Learn story
and make it your own

set up scene and think through
practicalities of moving to weave
things

be ready for the children to be
collected to go back to the
Poustinia room

Notes