



Thoughts on Letting Friends Down

Friendship involves expectations. We expect to be able to rely on our friends. We expect them to do certain things, to be kind to us, to care for us, to play with us, to share with us, to be with us. But sometimes friends can let us down by not doing these things. Or we might be the one letting down a friend.

The Bible says

'Jesus told Peter, James, and John to come with him. Jesus said to them, "I am full of sorrow. Stay here and watch."

Jesus walked a little farther away from them. He fell on the ground and prayed. Then Jesus went back to his followers. He found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, why are you sleeping? You could not stay awake with me for one hour? Stay awake and pray that you will not be tempted." Jesus went away and prayed. Again he found them asleep because their eyes were very heavy. And they did not know what to say to Jesus.' Mark 14:33-40

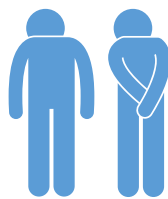


Game

Play a team game, like pass the balloon. All the team is expected to take part, help each other and work together.

Idea

Think about the Bible story. How did Jesus' friends let him down? How do you think he felt about it? How did his friends feel? Have you let down a friend? How did you feel? It can be hard to put things right. The best way to make up for letting down a friend is to say sorry and show you really mean it. We all make mistakes and saying sorry is a way of admitting we've got something wrong and will try not to do it again. When a friend has let you down, you probably feel upset with them. Forgiving them will make you feel better too.



Do

Make a two person people paper chain. Decorate as you and your friend as a reminder of being joined together in friendship.



Pray

Help us to remember friendship is something to treasure and put effort into. Help us to say sorry when we let down friends, and to forgive when they let us down.

