



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 21:28–31a (full reading: Matthew 21:28–32)

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

And he answered, 'I will not', but afterwards he changed his mind and went.

And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir', but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first."

Some things to think about...

- Can you think of any reasons why the first son may have said no to begin with? Why do you think he changed his mind?
- If we don't do the right thing straight away, we can always change our minds – it's never too late to do the right thing.
- Have you or your Mini Vinnie group wanted to do something, but haven't got around to it yet? What could you do to put your idea into action?

Activity

- Have you or your Mini Vinnie group wanted to do something, but haven't got around to it yet? e.g. Put on a bake sale or concert, do a park cleanup etc.
- What could you do to put your idea into action? Take this time to make a plan of the next steps so you can reach your goal! Use the template on the next page to help you.

Teacher's notes

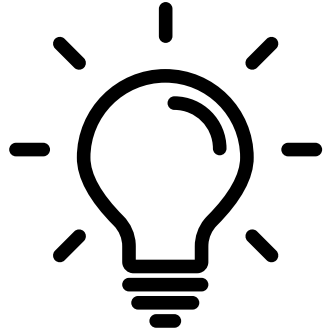
Jesus told this parable to explain to people that it is never too late to make changes to their life. Jesus emphasises this in his parables, like those we read in previous weeks, and in his interactions with others. For example, when Zacchaeus the tax collector encountered Jesus, he decided to pay back what he had taken from people and give half his earnings to the poor.

Jesus uses the example of the first son who did not obey his father straight away, but changed his mind later on. This is an example of Jesus' preaching of forgiveness and reconciliation, and is a reminder that God does not give up on His children.

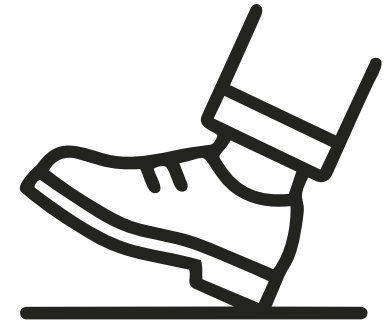
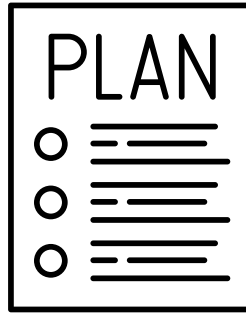
This is a good opportunity for children to think about what good actions they would like to take and to put them into practice, showing that actions speak louder than words.

Notes:

My idea is...



Plan of action...



The next step is...

