Level: 1
Title: CALLED TO LIVE LIKE JESUS
Strand: CHRISTIAN LIFE
   The flourishing of human persons, the common good of societies, shared responsibility in relation to creation.

Suggested Duration: 3 weeks

Unit Focus
In this unit the students will find a purpose for acting as Jesus did. They will understand that when they do this, they are living as Jesus showed us. They will relate it to how they care for themselves and others in the world.

Level Outcome
By the end of Level Two students should be able to:

Explore ways that Christians in their lives express love for God, self and others.

Unit Outcomes
By the end of this unit the students should be able to:

1. Identify their own needs and the needs of some other people in their world.
2. Demonstrate ways in which they can be kind and care for people as Jesus showed us.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAND</th>
<th>DOCTRINAL CONCEPTS</th>
<th>CATECHISM REFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jesus Christ</td>
<td>5. Jesus shows us the way God wants us to live.</td>
<td>1716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRISTIAN LIFE</td>
<td>2. God invites me to love and care for myself and others.</td>
<td>27, 2822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Jesus shows us how to live.</td>
<td>561</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Key Understandings for Students
- We are able to be kind and loving like Jesus.
- I live the way of Jesus when I care for others in the world.

Curriculum Links - VELS
Victorian Essential Learning Standards
The Called to Live like Jesus unit can be used to assess aspects of VELS. The table below gives an example of how Level 1 standards could be assessed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strand</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>Key elements of Standards Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical, Personal and Social</td>
<td>Interpersonal Development</td>
<td>Building Social</td>
<td>- “Students identify the qualities of a friend and demonstrate care for other students. They contribute to the development of positive social relationships in a range of contexts. They use appropriate language and actions when dealing with conflict. Students describe basic skills required to work cooperatively in groups.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relationships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students at this level display a vivid imagination which gives rise to lifelong religious images and concepts; incorporating images of God from loving and powerful adults and from stories and symbols. They are focused on themselves but are increasingly aware of the requirements of belonging to a group. They are ready to be introduced to the concept of Mission, but they require good modelling and developmentally appropriate stories so that teaching and learning activities are in line with their social, emotional, intellectual, moral and faith development.

This unit enables students to address their needs and wants and then to relate this to how they can care for themselves and others. It presents Mission in a way that is relevant to their own lives whilst at the same time introduces them to how Jesus invites us to live. This unit enables children to be led by their curiosity and to engage in a hands-on exploration of their world, expressing themselves through talking, drawing, creating, moving and playing.

Theological Background for Teachers

- Prior to Vatican II, Mission was understood to refer to the church’s work for the salvation of souls, which was carried out for the benefit of non-Christians abroad, mainly by priests, religious brothers, nuns, and specially-commissioned lay people, with the financial and spiritual support of the laity back home. The goal of mission was to establish the church in these “mission fields.” Mission, at this time, meant foreign mission, that is, mission in all the continents that were not considered already Christianized.

- The understanding of church and the understanding and practice of mission has changed since Vatican II. The contemporary Church’s identity is rooted in the mission that Jesus received from his Father. Thus, the Church has as its mission the establishment of the reign of God.

- Jesus lived and preached the values of the reign of God. Many of his parables speak of the reign of God, and his miraculous deeds are signs that the reign of God had drawn near in his ministry. This new world order is said to be of God because its arrival signals the gracious, forgiving, and redeeming presence of Yahweh in the world, and is not the fruit of human efforts. This way of being is open to all people, and all are invited to transform their lives according to its values, but it is given especially or “preferentially” to those who are marginalized, that is, the poor, the afflicted, the oppressed, the captives (Luke 4: 18).

- The present day work of mission is a continuation of the establishment of the reign of God, and all the baptized are called to this task, even though some are more engaged in “missionary” activities than others.

- This understanding of mission prompts cooperation with all Christians, and with the followers of other religions as well, since they too are called to the reign of God, even though not all of them will join the Church.

- Mission is proclaimed through personal witness, dialogue and through projects of evangelism, healing, teaching, development or liberation. The Holy Spirit, through the whole community of believers, inspires and directs the mission of the Church. Christian mission is no longer a one-way proclamation of a message of salvation to a world of pagans bereft of God’s self-revelation and grace, but first of all a search for and recognition of the presence and activities of the Holy Spirit among the peoples to be evangelized.

- Mission is directed to the whole world, including the cosmos, with less distinction between believer and non-believers. This takes into account that many people are nominally Christian but have yet to grasp what the gospel means.

- Whilst the content threads of mission education are woven throughout the primary syllabus, these units explicitly focus on Jesus, the reign of God and the call to mission. The aim of these units is to develop a contemporary understanding and appreciation of mission, which is...
to realize more fully the reign of God.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is mission for?</th>
<th>Before Vatican II</th>
<th>Since Vatican II</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Church’s work for the salvation of souls.</td>
<td>For the full realization of the Kingdom of God, which is already-but-not-yet, present-and-future, realized-and-eschatological.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| To whom? | Carried out for the benefit of the pagans abroad. | To the whole world in all its dimensions and arenas, including the cosmos, to all peoples whatever their religious faith. |

| By whom? | Mainly by priests, religious brothers, nuns, and specially-commissioned lay people, mostly from Europe and America. | By God, first of all, because the Church’s mission is nothing but a continuation of God’s mission in Jesus; and secondly, by all, hierarchy and laity, even though some are more engaged in “missionary” activities than others. |

| With whom? | With the financial and spiritual support of the laity back home. | With all Christians, and not only with Catholics, without denominational confrontation and competition; and furthermore, with the followers of other religions as well, since they too are called to the reign of God, even though not all of them will join the Church. |

| How? | By planting the Church in these “mission fields”. | By personal witness and dialogue. |

**Scripture**

**Teacher Reference (NRSV)**

1 Jn 4:7,9;11-12
Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Mt 5:3-11
God blesses those people who depend only on him.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven!
God blesses those people who grieve.
They will find comfort!
God blesses those people who are humble.
The earth will belong to them!
God blesses those people who want to obey him more than to eat or drink.
They will be given what they want!
God blesses those people who are merciful.
They will be treated with mercy!
God blesses those people whose hearts are pure.
They will see him! God blesses those people who make peace.
They will be called his children!
God blesses those people who are treated badly for doing right.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven. God will bless you when people insult you, mistreat you, and tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me.

**Student Reference (CEV)**

Jn 13:34-35
But I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you. If you love each other, everyone will know that you are my disciples.

Mt 8:2-4
Suddenly a man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus. He said, "Lord, you have the power to make me well, if only you wanted to." Jesus put his hand on the man and said, "I want to! Now you are well." At once the man's leprosy disappeared.
Mt 20:29-34
Jesus was followed by a large crowd as he and his disciples were leaving Jericho. Two blind men were sitting beside the road. And when they heard that Jesus was coming their way, they shouted, "Lord and Son of David, have pity on us!" The crowd told them to be quiet, but they shouted even louder, "Lord and Son of David, have pity on us!" When Jesus heard them, he stopped and asked, "What do you want me to do for you?"
They answered, "Lord, we want to see!"
Jesus felt sorry for them and touched their eyes. Right away they could see, and they became his followers.

Mk 2:1-4, 10b-11
Jesus went back to Capernaum, and a few days later people heard that he was at home. Then so many of them came to the house that there wasn't even standing room left in front of the door. Jesus was still teaching when four people came up, carrying a crippled man on a mat. But because of the crowd, they could not get him to Jesus. So they made a hole in the roof above him and let the man down in front of everyone.
So Jesus said to the man, "Get up! Pick up your mat and go on home."

**Suggested Assessment Tasks**

**Outcome 1**  Students identify their own needs and the needs of some other people in their world
- Students identify and draw at least four of the basic needs of people.

**Outcome 2**  Students demonstrate ways they can be kind and care for people as Jesus showed us
- List ways people show kindness and care for each other.
- Children draw a picture to match the theme, 'Living as Jesus Showed Us.'
- Complete the sentence, ‘I can be kind and caring like Jesus by…’

N.B All of the above Outcomes lend themselves to reporting in the dimension of Knowledge and Understanding.

**Suggested Teaching & Learning Experiences**

**Focusing Activity:**
Using a variety of images, students categorize them into Needs and Wants.

- Mt 8: 2-4 To PREPARE TO HEAR the Word students investigate the vocabulary of the text eg. Leprosy. Discuss times when students have felt left out.
- Mt 8: 2-4 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students complete the 5Ws strategy to unpack the story.
- Mt 8: 2-4 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students sequence the story.
- Mt 8: 2-4 To RESPOND to the Word make a class list of ways that we can help others to feel that they belong, are welcomed and included.
- Read one of the suggested stories from Student Resources e.g. “Rainbow fish to the rescue”. (Pfister, Marcus) Discuss how kind acts can affect others.
- Discuss the Needs/Wants choices made. Are they the same for everyone?
- Prepare and participate in a Mission Week liturgy.
- Create a Big Book Illustrate and write your own Big Book about the way Jesus was kind to people
- Word Web (refer to icon in Planning Tool) Write as many words as you can as a class that can be associated with caring/kindness or need/wants.
• Pairs Check *(refer to icon in Planning Tool)* Have a series of pictures that show problems and the students are to take turns at suggesting how they could be like Jesus in this situation.

• Brainstorm ways of caring for people at home and at school.

• Jn 13: 34-35 To PREPARE TO HEAR the Word investigate and discuss the word LOVE, how is love shown differently to the people and things in our lives.

• Jn 13: 34-35 To ENCOUNTER the Word after reading the text from the Bible, students visually represent the word LOVE, eg. collage.

• Jn 13: 34-35 To RESPOND to the Word students write prayers of thanks for people who love us and/or prayers of petition for those we show love to.

• Watch the DVD’s (2004). The magical world of Winnie-the-Pooh: little things mean a lot: adventures in caring and sharing. [DVD]. USA: Walt Disney Company. (2005). The magical world of Winne-the-Pooh: share your world: adventures in sharing and caring. [DVD]. USA: Walt Disney Company, recall aspects of caring for others and relate these to our own experiences. Make a class mural titled something like “Mission means Helping and Loving all People”.

• Create class prayers of intercession together “Loving God, help me to…..”

• Unpack the current Catholic Mission materials, DVD and Online materials. [www.catholicmission.org.au](http://www.catholicmission.org.au)

• Sing: "Face of God" & "5 Thousand People" (Face of God Mission CD)"God's Family" & "Making the Difference" (Let's Celebrate Tool CD)"Sharing in the Mission of Jesus" (All God's Children CD)

• Brainstorm how family and friends show kindness for each other. Students write a sentence, I care for...

• Create a class book illustrating the way Jesus teaches us to care for others.

### Resources

For resources to support this unit, refer to the online planning tool. For additional resources, refer to the Resource Centre Catalogue: [http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au) and follow links to Resource Centre.