

## Assembly 3

### Working with the pigs

#### *You will need:*

Marker pens, a whiteboard or large sheets of paper.

*Play and sing "Here is the world"*

*Recap the story so far*

#### *Continue the story*

The son didn't waste any time. He set off for the big city and began spending his money. If he wanted something, he bought it. He soon found that he had new friends to share his time, money and possessions with. The trouble was, he was spending so much time spending money, that he didn't have any time to earn any more. Eventually it ran out and so did his friends.

He tried to get a job, but the only job he could get was cleaning out a pig sty. He was so hungry that he wanted to eat the food that the pigs were eating.

*Play the song, "Working with the pigs"*

#### *Activity*

In the story, the son's friends deserted him. If you had to draw a sketch to show what a perfect friend would look like, what would you draw? How would they be standing? What would they look like? Would they have anything with them? Who thinks they can draw a quick sketch of the perfect friend and then explain what they've drawn?

*(e.g. They might draw big muscles for protection, smiling face for kindness, outstretched hands for generosity, a big heart for caring, e.t.c. If this is too abstract for them, you could point out some of the above, or demonstrate it yourself. You may want several children to have a go at this.)*

#### *Questions for discussion*

Can anyone describe what a "friend" is? What does it mean to be a friend?

What happened to the son's friends and why do you think this was?

Is "friends" the right word for them?

The man's friends really only wanted to be with him because he was spending lots of money and they wanted to share in it. They weren't really bothered about him as a person. They only wanted to take what he had. They were false friends.

True friends are those who stick with you because they like you as a person, whether or not you have lots of money, toys, sweets, etc.

Sometimes people who are bossy or nasty to other people, seem to be surrounded by lots of friends. Why do you think this happens and do you think they tend to be true or false friends?

#### *Prayer*

Help us Lord, to be good friends to others, trying to give and not just to take.

#### *Reflection*

People who are real friends, give and take. People who pretend to be friends just take.

*Learn the song*