



Remembrance

THEIR NAME LIVETH
FOR EVERMORE



Mark Kilner: Creative Commons

Aim: To think about Remembrance Day and how Jesus laid down His life for us.

Outcomes: Participants will be able to share stories of Remembrance Day or people who have risked their life for others.



Icebreaker:
Serve Refreshments.

Unlocking life experience:



George Hodan: Creative Commons

Show one of the 'Tower of London' poppies and commemorative booklet, pictures of crosses at the nearest place they have been displayed, any other war memorabilia.

- ◆ **Do you commemorate Remembrance Day? 2 minutes silence?**
- ◆ **Do you know a story of someone involved in a war?**
- ◆ **Write the name on a card of somebody you want to remember, it could be a family member killed at war or somebody who made an impact on your life.**



Activity:

Decorate cakes and biscuits with 'poppies'.

- ◆ What would you do for a friend?
- ◆ Do you know someone who has risked their life for somebody else?



Story of WW1: Singing Jim:

Greater love has no-one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:13

A soldier was sent a small Bible book at the front. With time on his hands, he read and re-read it. Despite never showing an interest in spiritual things before, the words sunk in and he became a changed man. There were hymns at the back of the book and as he sang them to himself, he became known up and down the trench as 'Singing Jim'.

During a reconnaissance mission, a young soldier from his company was wounded between the trenches. A volunteer was asked for to bring him in, and Singing Jim stepped forward. He reached the man under cover of darkness, and began crawling home with his friend on his back. Then a flare burst overhead, revealing their position. A single sniper shot rang out and Singing Jim was killed outright.

In his pocket was a long letter to his wife about how he had come to Christ, encouraging her to do the same. The wounded man offered to take it home to England and deliver it in person, telling her how her husband had laid down his life for him.

He was given the letter and he did indeed deliver it, but his company had one further request. While he was in England, could he pick up some copies of the book Singing Jim had been reading?



Questions for discussion:

- ◆ What did Singing Jim do for the injured soldier?
- ◆ What did you like about this story?
- ◆ How did the story make you feel?
- ◆ How hard would it have been for Singing Jim to rescue the injured soldier?



'Gassed' Oil painting by John Singer Sargent

Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ:

John 15:12-15 (Good News Translation)

(Jesus said:)

¹² My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. ¹³ The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them. ¹⁴ And you are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father.



Releasing Life Changing Skills and Confidence:

Further questions:

- ◆ Can you see any connections between our stories, Singing Jim's story and the Bible story?
- ◆ What did Jesus say in our Bible story and how did He show this?
- ◆ Do you think reading the story in the St. John's Gospel had an impact on Singing Jim? Why? What did he do for the injured soldier?
- ◆ In what ways can we lay down our lives for our friends?

Continuing Reflective Cycles:

How will you respond?

Does this story have meaning for your life or for this community?

Cards to take away with Bible verses about peace.

They enjoyed decorating the cakes to look like poppies and the conversations started well with a lady who had tried to be silent on a crowded bus at 11am

Singing Jim story and questions taken from resources on www.hopetogether.org.uk

Outline Developed by Alison Adlum: Unlock Burnley

