

Screwing Things Up

Icebreaker:

Look at the images of well known people (see page 2); try to decide between you who you think deserves to be called the most kind or be given an 'Angel' award

Alternatively

Discuss the made up characters on page 3 and decide who deserves to be known as the best.

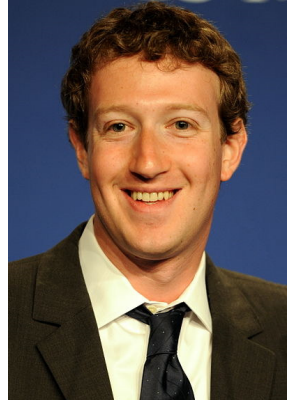
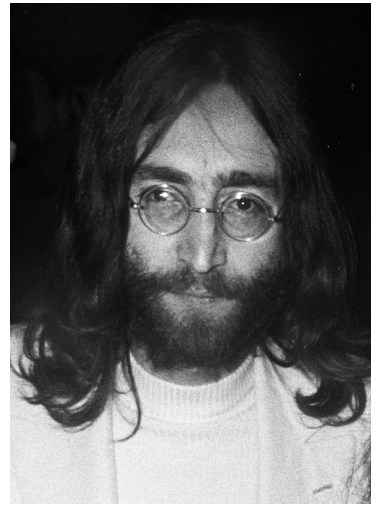


Unlocking Real Life Stories of Urban people

Discussion Questions:

- Who is the kindest person you know?
- What makes them good?
- How good a person do you think *you* are?
- Are there times when you could be more kind to others?
- Does it ever feel as if you can't get anything right, no matter how hard you try?
- How does that make you feel?
- Do you ever feel like you've lost your way?





<p>Joanne Has one step-child and one natural child Has been married for five years, but together for fifteen Is a banker Donates old clothes when the bags come through the door Has a dog</p>	<p>Amanda Has four teenagers Has been married for twenty years Is a health care assistant Spends a lot of spare time volunteering with a health care charity Ignores homeless people on the street</p>
<p>Tim Is a joiner Never pays tax Has helped several strangers with his first aid training Buys coffee for a homeless man who lives in his town Enjoys long walks</p>	<p>Graham Is single Is a Doctor Often makes junior doctors cry Volunteers at the local food bank Goes snowboarding</p>
<p>Gillian Is a widow - cared for her husband for three years before he died Has no children although she always wanted them Makes tea and coffee after church on Sunday Puts things in her neighbours bins without asking</p>	<p>Roger Has four children Has been married twenty years, and has had one affair Works for the red cross Is a church warden Regularly completes triathlons for charity</p>

These cards above can be printed (or just read aloud) and used for the ice breaker on page 1.

Revealing Good News of the Down To Earth Christ

Screwing Things Up

Luke 15:4-6

“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home”



OR—Luke 15:11-32

11 Jesus went on to say, “There was once a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to him, ‘Father, give me my share of the property now.’ So the man divided his property between his two sons. 13 After a few days the younger son sold his part of the property and left home with the money. He went to a country far away, where he wasted his money in reckless living. 14 He spent everything he had. Then a severe famine spread over that country, and he was left without a thing. 15 So he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him out to his farm to take care of the pigs. 16 He wished he could fill himself with the bean pods the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything to eat. 17 At last he came to his senses and said, ‘All my father's hired workers have more than they can eat, and here I am about to starve! 18 I will get up and go to my father and say, Father, I have sinned against God and against you. 19 I am no longer fit to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired workers.’ 20 So he got up and started back to his father.

He was still a long way from home when his father saw him; his heart was filled with pity, and he ran, threw his arms round his son, and kissed him. 21 ‘Father,’ the son said, ‘I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer fit to be called your son.’ 22 But the father called his servants. ‘Hurry!’ he said. ‘Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. 23 Then go and get the prize calf and kill it, and let us celebrate with a feast! 24 For this son of mine was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.’ And so the feasting began.

25 In the meantime the elder son was out in the field. On his way back, when he came close to the house, he heard the music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him, ‘What's going on?’ 27 ‘Your brother has come back home,’ the servant answered, ‘and your father has killed the prize calf, because he got him back safe and sound.’

28 The elder brother was so angry that he would not go into the house; so his father came out and begged him to come in. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look, all these years I have worked for you like a slave, and I have never disobeyed your orders. What have you given me? Not even a goat for me to have a feast with my friends! 30 But this son of yours wasted all your property on prostitutes, and when he comes back home, you kill the prize calf for him!’ 31 ‘My son,’ the father answered, ‘you are always here with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be happy, because your brother was dead, but now he is alive; he was lost, but now he has been found.’ ”

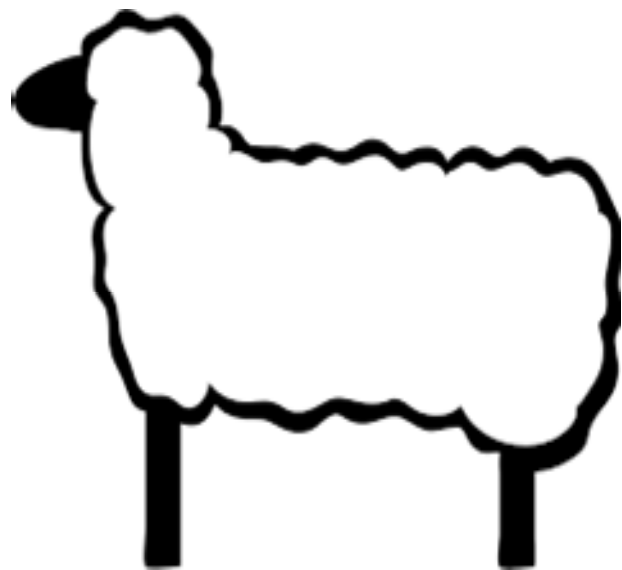


Discussion Questions:

- Which person or animal in the stories do you most relate to?
- What do you do when you feel you've lost your way?
- Who finds you?

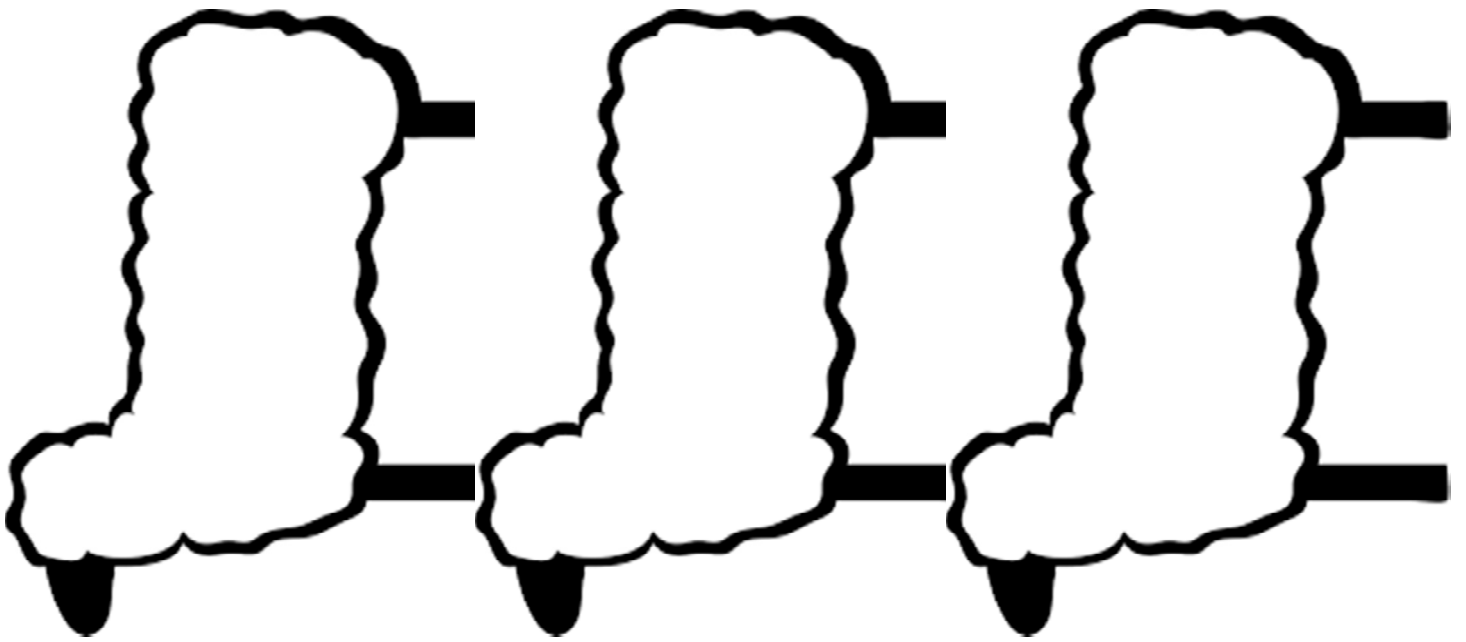
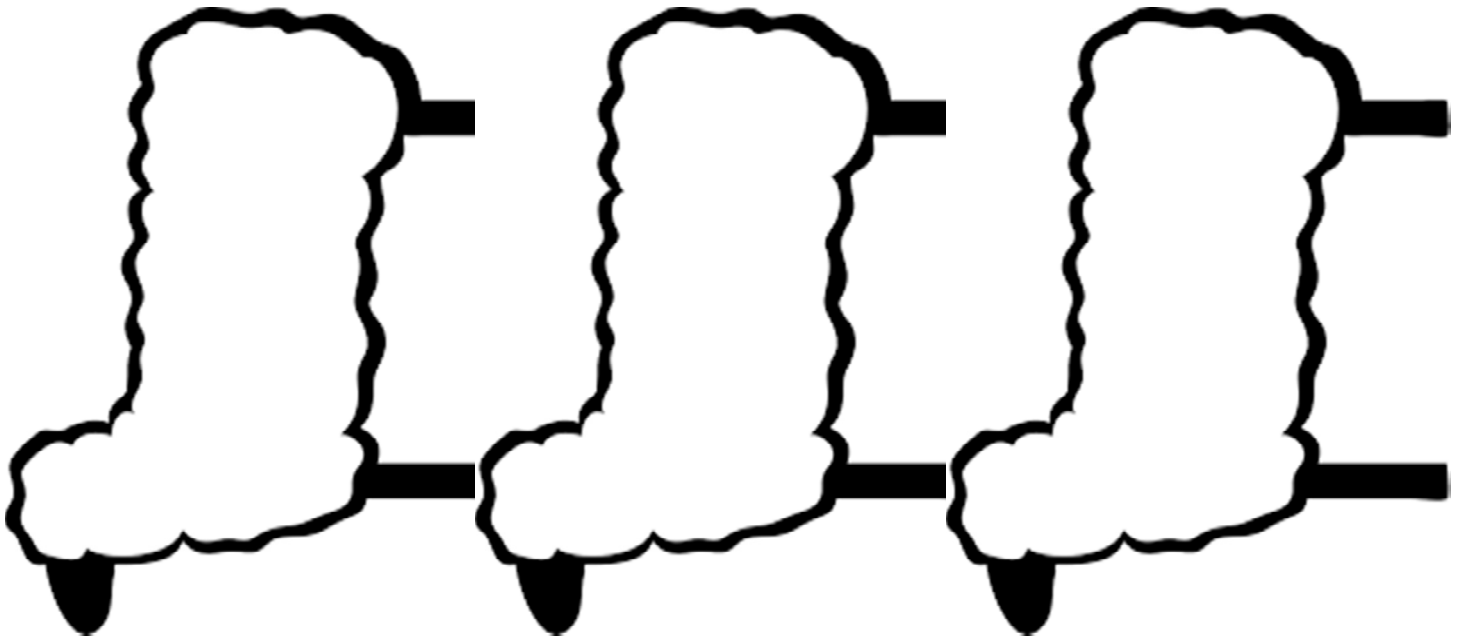
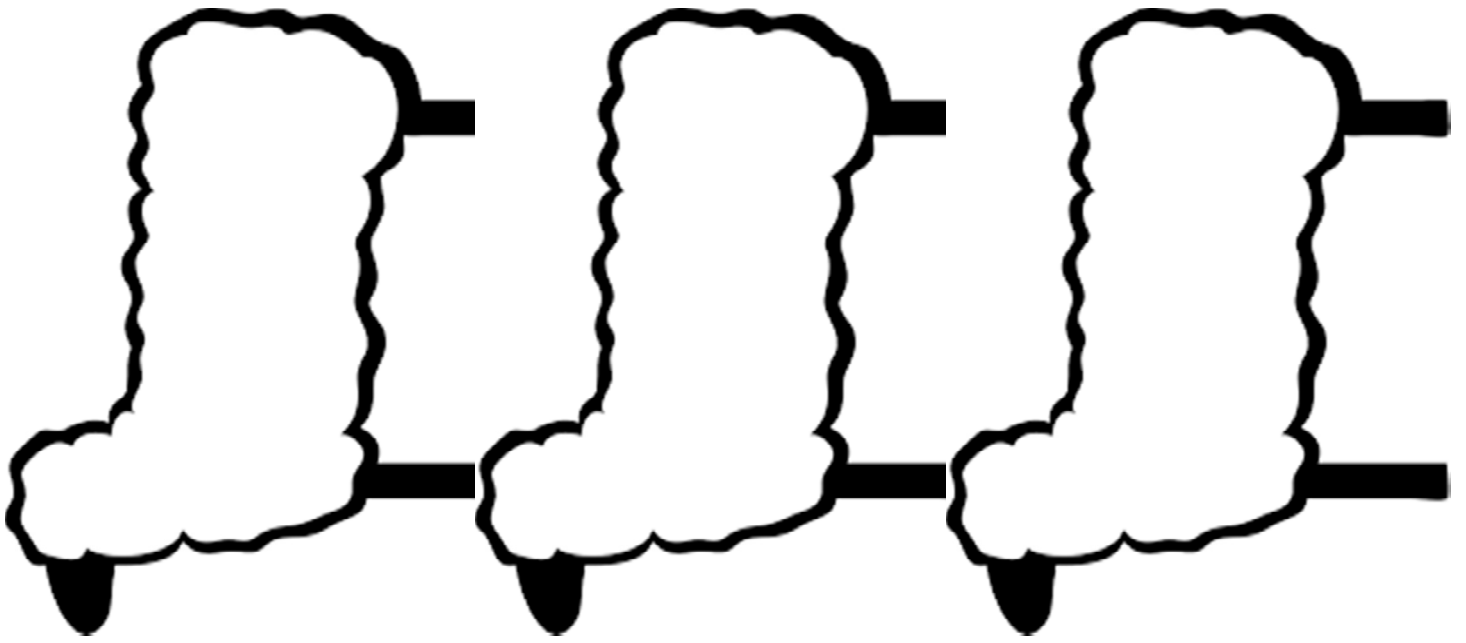
Active Reflection

Provide sheep shaped cards to decorate write "Screwed things up, finding my way back" on them and decorate with drawings and stickers. (see p7)



Print the cards on page 8 and give them to people to take home.





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Or—Watch this video

www.unlock-urban.org.uk/resources_heart.php

And then try this activity from ‘Unlocking the Prodigal’ .

http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk/documents/UnlockingtheProdigalPopversion_000.pdf

Younger Brother Zone

Watch the video at www.unlock-urban.org.uk/resources_heart.php
Unlocking Real Life Stories of Urban People



Photo from Wikimedia

encourage people to reflect on and share any of their own experiences brought to mind by the video.

- Have you ever felt really sorry for the way you have behaved?
- Have you ever wished that you could wipe the slate clean and make a completely fresh start?



Photo by Chaojoker, Creative

Releasing Life Changing Skills and Confidence

Reflective Activity: –
Washing dirty Hearts.

- People are invited to take a grubby heart and wash it clean, then rinse it, squeeze out the excess water and hang it up to dry.
- Those who wish to can take one home to remind them of what they have done and thought about



Photo from Wikimedia Commons.