

7. **Message /Talk**
8. **Song/s**
9. **Student item/participation**
10. **Prayers**

Student 1

Loving God, today we are celebrating public education. We ask you to bless all of the people who work in our school, especially our teachers, office staff, cleaners, canteen helpers and our parents too. Please help us to be responsible and show respect towards everybody in our school community. Help us to care for other students in our school. Amen

Student 2

Loving God, we pray for all students in NSW schools. We pray that we will respect other people who are different. We pray that we will all follow our school rules as well as the laws of our country. We pray that everyone will know about God's love. Amen.

Student 3

(An opportunity for prayers related to participating schools)

11 Closing

³⁷Jesus said: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

(Matthew Chapter 22: verses 37 and 39, NIV)

Order of Service for younger students

**Education Week 2009
24 – 31 May**

**Theme: A love of learning
NSW Public Schools: *Leading the way***

An inter-denominational Christian service for optional use by schools and churches prepared for the NSW Department of Education and Training by members of the Director-General's Consultative Committee on Special Religious Education.



ORDER OF SERVICE

1. Welcome

2. Song

3. Introduction

A long time ago there was a man named Paul. He made tents and travelled around his part of the world telling people about Jesus. He wrote a letter to his young friend named Timothy. Paul wanted his young friend Timothy to live a life helping people and doing the sorts of things that he was telling other adults and children to do. Listen to what he wrote:

These words should not be forgotten. We have put our hope in the Living God, who is the saviour of everyone, but especially of those who have faith. That is why we work and struggle so hard.

Teach these things and tell everyone to do what you say. Don't let anyone make fun of you, just because you are young. Set an example for other followers by what you say and do as well as by your love, faith and purity.

Be careful about the way you live and about what you teach. Keep on doing this and you will save not only yourself, but the people who hear you.

(1 Timothy Chapter 4: verses 9- 12, 16 CEV).

Timothy was not very old, and many people thought that he wasn't old enough to understand what Paul was talking about. Paul wanted Timothy to tell people about Jesus, and what Jesus did.

You can set an example to others, showing kindness and respect, and reach out to everyone regardless of how old they are, what they look like, how they dress and where they live. In the Gospel of Luke, chapter 10, we have an example of Jesus teaching how important it is to reach out to others and show them love and kindness.

4. Opening Prayer

Loving God, we pray today that we can know more about your Son, Jesus, as we learn about the Bible and hear about your love for others. Teach us to care about others who have different ways of thinking, behaving and speaking. Help us to learn to love as Jesus did. Amen

5. Bible Reading

If you read Luke's gospel in the Bible, Jesus shows kindness to many other people regardless of who they are, where they come from or what they believed. There are many examples of Jesus teaching through stories. One of these stories is known as the Good Samaritan. The Samaritans were a group of people who were different and not accepted by other people.

Jesus tells this story to answer the question "Who is my neighbour?"

Listen to what He has to say.

Luke Chapter 10: verses 30 - 37 (NIV)

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

³⁰In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³²So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' ³⁶"Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."