

God can tell who we really are

God made us, so he loves us and he knows all about us. He knows all the things we enjoy doing and the friends we like spending time with. But he also sees all the wrong things we do, so he sent Jesus to help us.

Take out all the 'x's to crack the code to find out what Jesus said about people:

OXN XTXHE XOXUTXSXXIDE YXOUX SXEEXM XTO
BXXE XDXOINXG WHXAXT XIXS RIXGXHT. BUXT XONX
XTHXE XINXSXXIDXE YOXUX XARXE XFULXL XOXF
XWHXAXT XIS WXRXXONGX.

From the Bible, Matthew 23 v 28

The wrong things we think and do stop us from being friends with God.
But there's really good news...

God can change the inside

2000 years ago Jesus lived on earth. He was God's perfect Son, so he never did anything wrong. He did lots of amazing things and taught people about God. Some people hated him and killed him – but Jesus came back to life again!

Today we can become friends of Jesus. He helps us become friends with God. We can say sorry to God for wrong things we've done, and he will forgive us. And he will start changing us inside. On the outside we'll look the same, but on the inside we'll be completely different – and better!

You can find out lots more about Jesus. Ask the person who gave you this leaflet, or see if you can join a group at a church where they teach the Bible.

Dear Jesus,

I'm sorry for the wrong things I do. Please help me become God's friend, so I can be changed on the inside. And help me to learn more about you.

Amen



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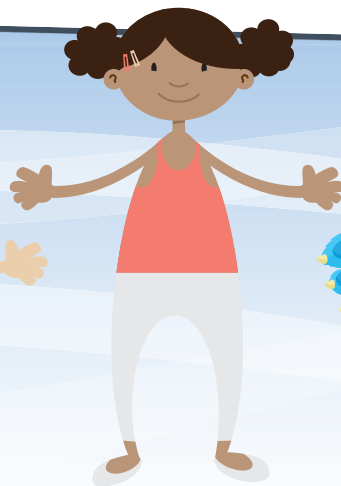
The dressing-up box

Dressing up is a lot of fun!
What do you like to dress up as...?



If you could have any costume in your dressing-up box, what would it be?
(You could look around the page for ideas and pick your favourite!)

See if you can match the children before and after they've put on their costume!



Print and colour your own characters at www.thegoodbook.com/dressingup

2. We can change the outside, but we can't change the inside

No matter how good our costume is, we can't change what we're like on the inside. If we're dressed up as superman, we still can't fly. And if we're dressed up as a wizard, we can't really turn anybody into a frog.

Whether we're wearing a fantastic costume, or a black plastic bag because we forgot we needed one, there are two things that are always true:

It's fun to change what we look like on the outside and pretend to be someone completely different for an evening. But if you could change what you are like on the inside, what would you change? Would you...

1. People can tell who we really are

No matter how good our costume is, our friends can tell who we really are. People on our street can still recognise us – which is probably a good thing, otherwise we might scare them!

- make yourself braver?
- stop yourself ever getting cross?
- make yourself kinder?
- stop yourself ever feeling lonely?

If we could put on a costume that changed these things about us, we'd wear it all the time! But we can't change what we're like on the inside. Although there is someone who can...