

Language Arts English

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The Selfish Giant

- Oscar Wilde

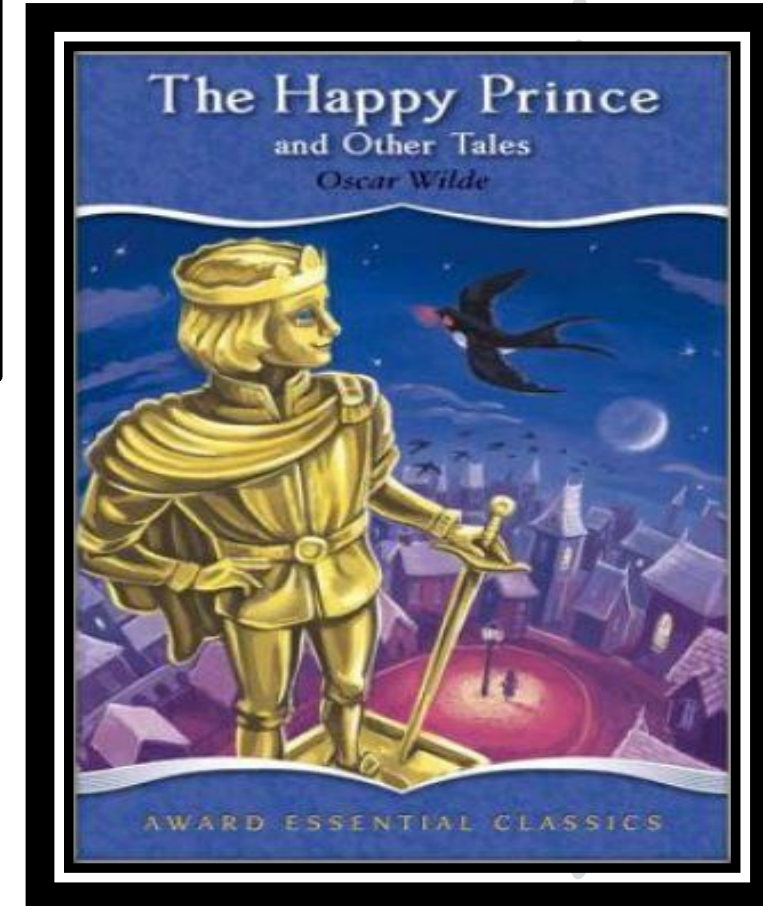
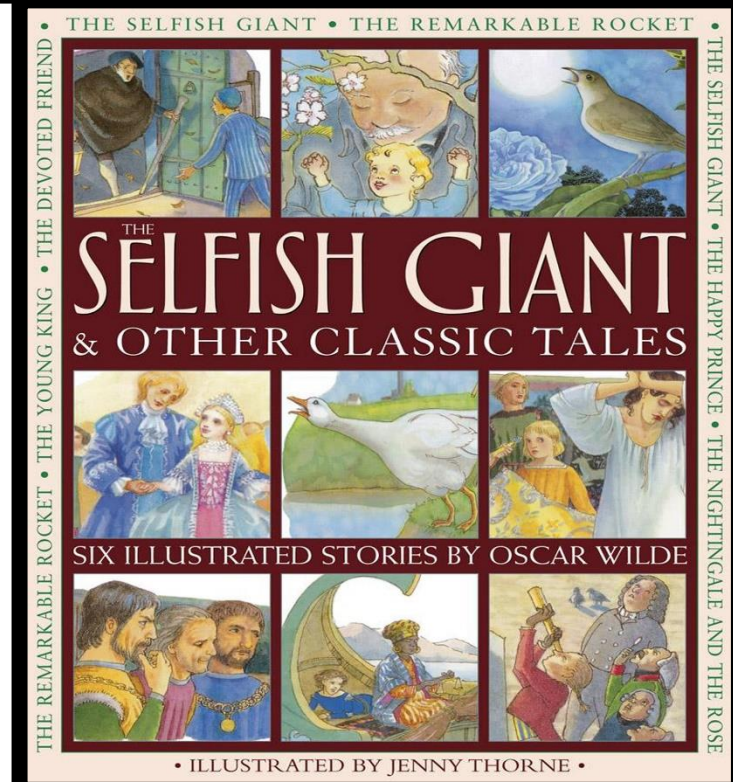


An Outline of the Session (Session III)

- **Warm Up Activity (10 mins)**
- **Plot, Setting and Characters (An Overview)- 10 mins**
- **Analysis & Interpretation of the story (30 mins)**
 - **'The Selfish Giant' as an analogical illustration of the Christian Values**
 - **Symbolism in the Story**
 - **Personification in the Story**
 - **Similes in the Story**
 - **Anaphora in the Story**
- **Reorientation (10 mins)**

Oscar Wilde (1854- 1900)

- An Irish poet and playwright
- Best known for his epigrams, plays and novel
- Had been recognized as one of most popular playwrights in London in early 1890s





THE GIANT COMES HOME

***The Giant's
Garden***

Setting

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➤ **The Giant**
The Children

Plot

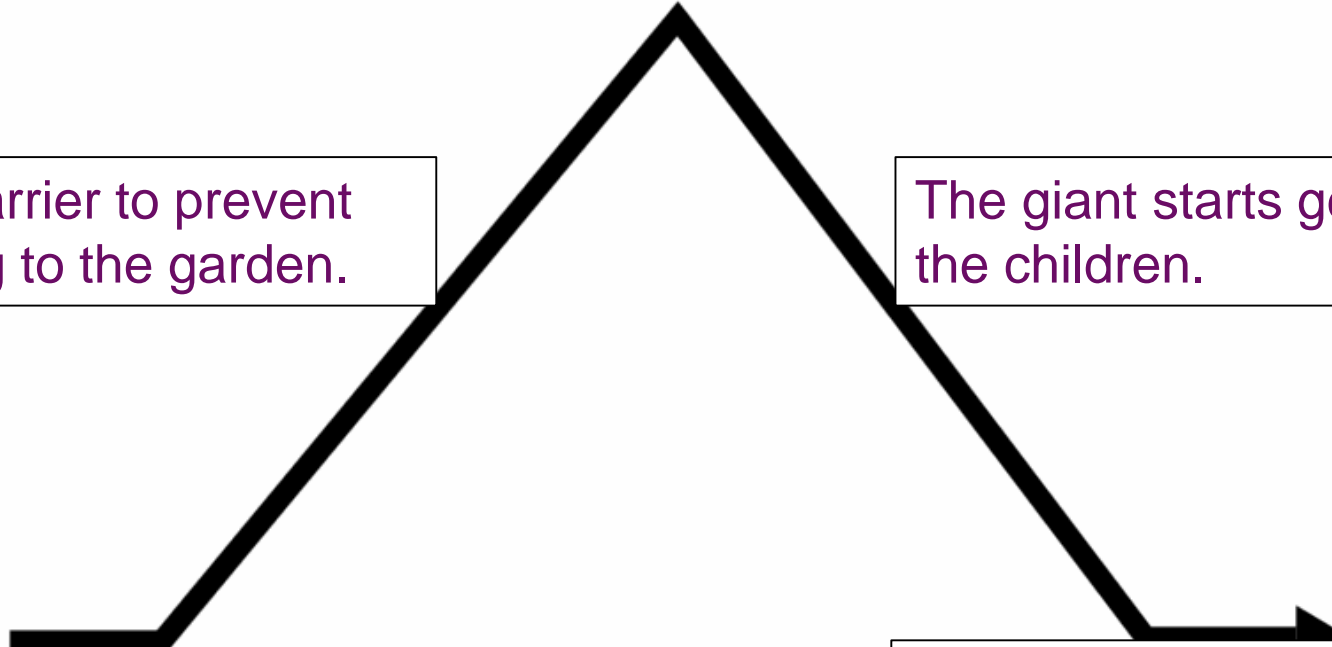
The children enter the garden through a small hole.

The giant builds a barrier to prevent children from coming to the garden.

The giant starts getting kind towards the children.

The giant finds the children playing in the garden.

The giant ultimately gets guided by the child to the paradise.



The Story as an Allegory

- The Selfish Giant carries different symbols
- Most of the symbols used in the story allude to Christian Values
- The story even carries moral significance beside the spiritual one

The giant's garden didn't bore flowers or fruits because he was obsessed with his property; didn't allow the children to play there.



When you are materialistic, you are moving against the rule of nature

The giant builds high wall and puts a board to prevent the children (innocence)



Human, obsessed with riches preventing himself from reaching near the god

The giant ultimately breaks the wall which brings beautiful spring to his estate



Detachment from materialism leads you to the company of god

Guided by the child, the giant goes to the heaven



Innocence is the way of getting redemption

The spring denies coming to the giant's garden; the autumn denies giving fruits.



When you are self-centered, nature punishes you.

The child whose eyes are full of tears hugged the giant and kissed him



Innocence can heal even the corrupted; forgiveness and kindness

The giant, after regaining selflessness accepts winter as the gift of nature



Kindness brings wisdom and acceptance in you

Seasons punishing the giant (Criticism)



Innocence and forgiveness of nature?????



Symbols used in the story



The Garden of Eden

The Giant's Garden

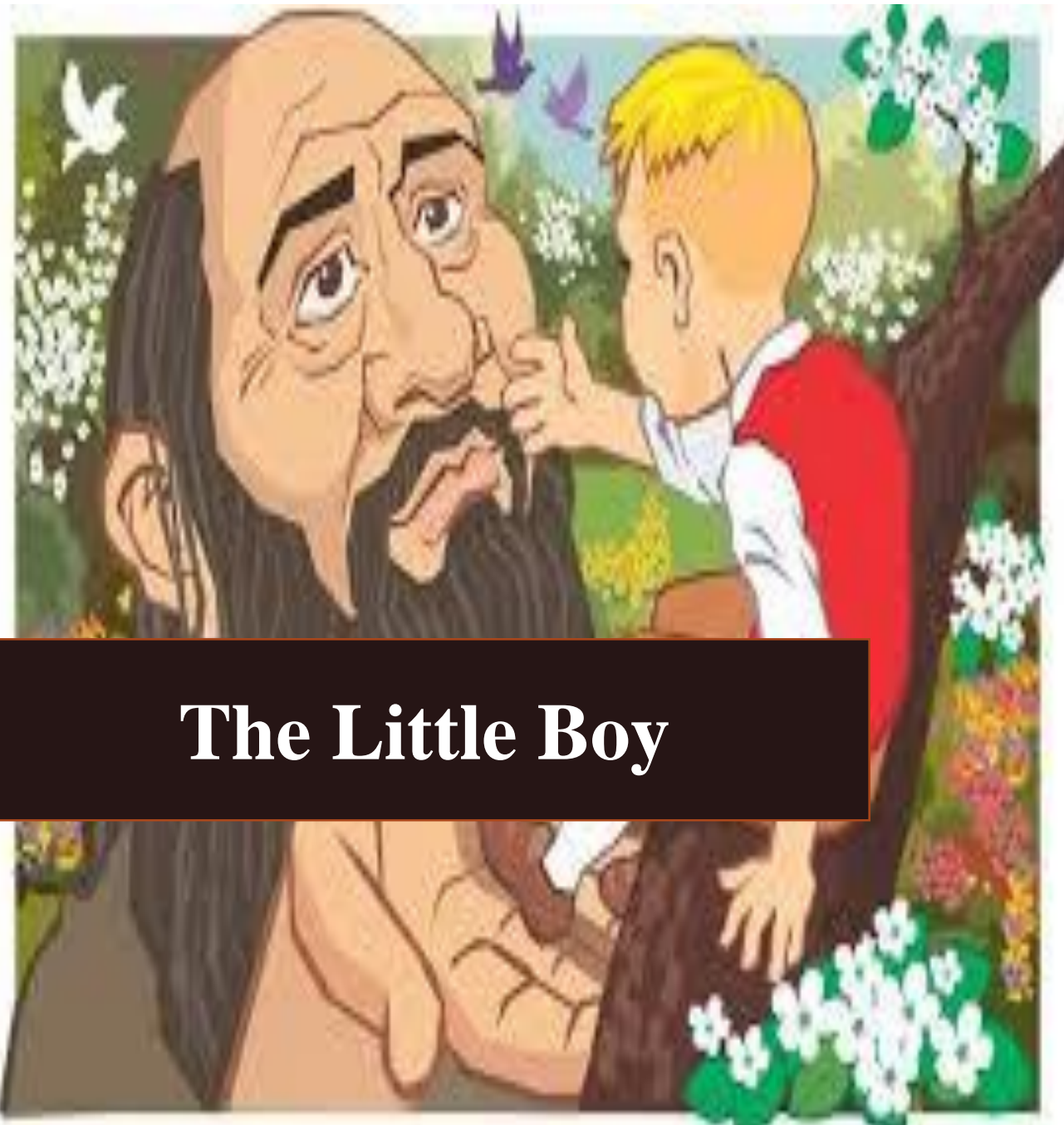
Innocence of Children

- Before the giant returns, the garden is pristine.....just like the garden of Eden
- When the giant enters, the garden is covered by snow..... garden covered by snow symbolizes selfishness of an individual
- Innocence brings spring to the garden.....

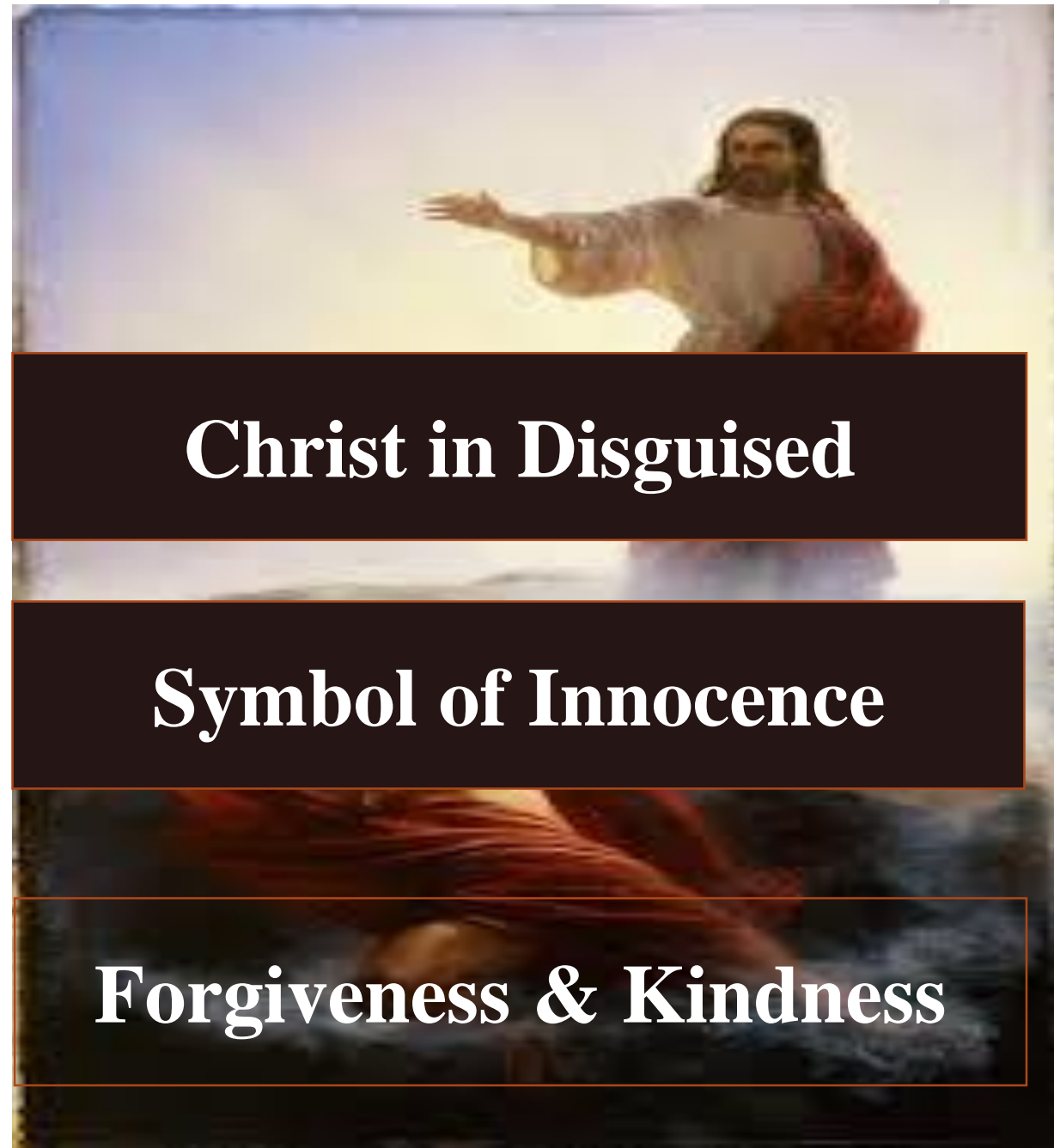
Use of Simile



There were flowers like stars.....



The Little Boy



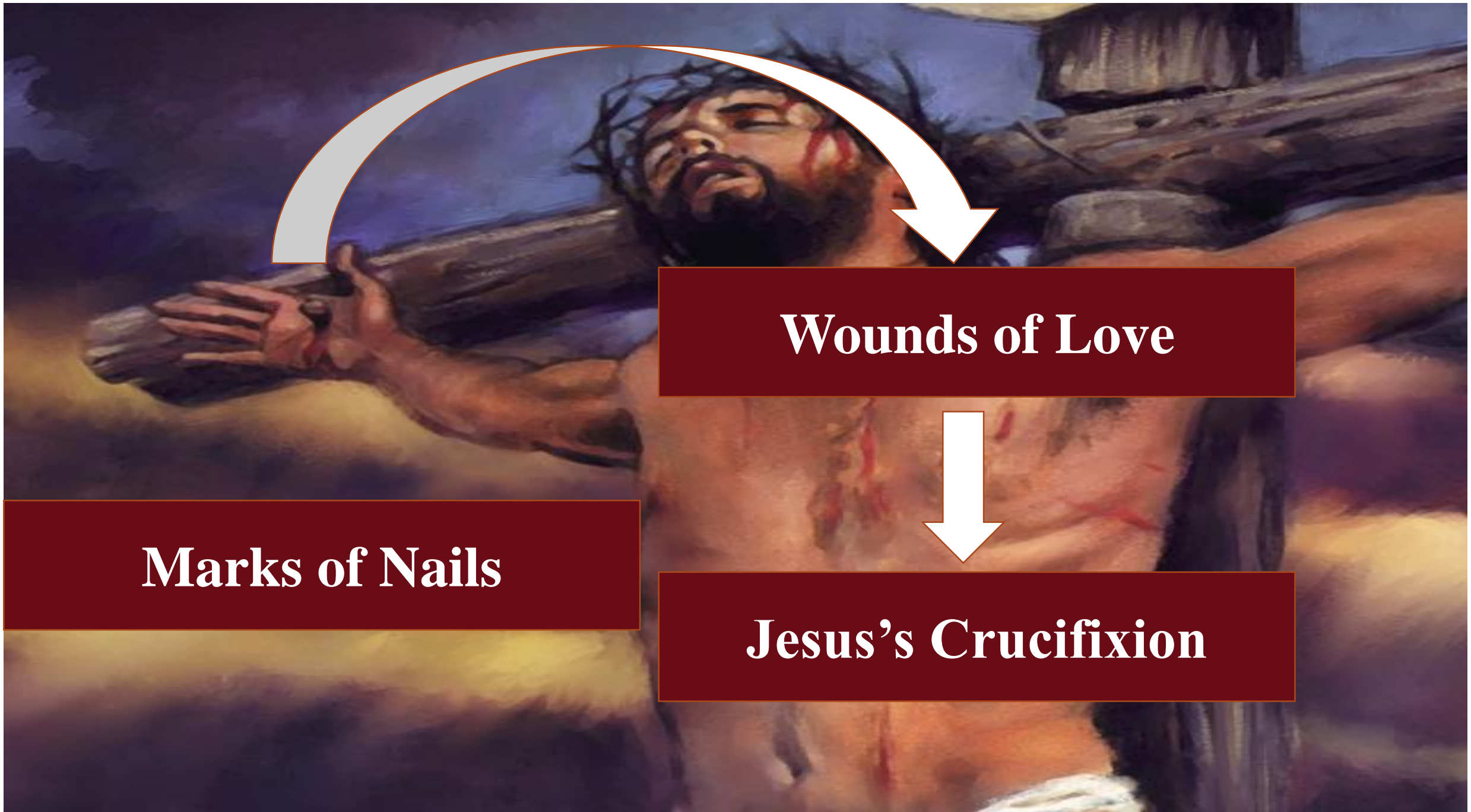
Christ in Disguised

Symbol of Innocence

Forgiveness & Kindness



Kindness brings you close to the god



Wounds of Love

Marks of Nails

Jesus's Crucifixion



Paradise

Selflessness leads you to the paradise (happiness)

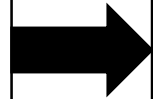
The Boy's Garden



The Tree: The True Cross

Other Symbols

- ❖ Frost
- ❖ Snow
- ❖ The Hail
- ❖ The North wind



- ❖ *Forces of Winter*
- ❖ *Feel delighted in causing the giant feel miserable*
- ❖ *Punishment for being selfish*
- ❖ *Sin naturally brings consequences against the sinner*
- ❖ *Negative human emotions*

Personification Used in the Story

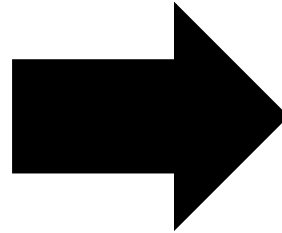
- The birds did not care to sing
- The trees forgot to blossom.....
- Once a beautiful flower put its head out from the grass, but when it saw the notice-board it was so sorry for the children that it slipped back into the ground again, and went off to sleep

Personification in the Story

Spring Season

Autumn Season

Winter Season



Passage of time
Different personality traits
of individuals
Spring- reward
Winter- punishment

Assignments

- i. What is the main theme of the story 'The Selfish Giant'?
How does the story make the use of personification as one of the main figures of speech? What is the significance of the seasons personified in the story??
- ii. This story can be read as a fairytale, where the children, the seasons, the tree, the corner of the garden, the snow, the wind and the frost are all used as symbolism. Interpret