



Kelly Rowland: Stole



turning up at school with his dad's gun and going crazy. Kelly goes on to talk about the potential that was 'stole' from the people that he killed - Mary, who could have been a film star, and Greg, who could have been a basketball player... and all because of the lack of attention and the bullying that this guy received.

What makes the lyrics to 'Stole' really interesting, though, is the way that Kelly flips the whole issue on its head. Instead of producing some kind of wishy-washy ballad about how we've all got to love each other, she really challenges herself in the middle of the song, when she sings:

'Now I wish I woulda talked to him, Gave him the time of day, not turn away, If I woulda been the one to maybe go this far, he might have stayed at home, playing angry chords on his guitar.'

For Reflection

How often do things happen when we blame other people, or society for them? Is there something that we can do to change these things? Try thinking about the example of Mother Teresa or St Francis, who saw things wrong, and did something about them. What do you think when you read this Bible verse: 'Just as the body is dead without its spirit, so faith without good deeds is also dead.' James 2:26 - a real challenge, eh?

For Action

Maybe we could try different ways to help those who aren't so fortunate by volunteering some time? Why not think of one person you know who doesn't find it easy to get on with people, and try to do something nice for them - whether by stopping to chat, or inviting them out.

For Prayer

Dear Lord, Thank you that you love all people, whether old or young, rich or poor. Please help me to do something extraordinary today to help somebody who needs that help. Amen.

The Song

With soaring soulful tones bringing back Destiny's Child and sticking them right in your face, 'Stole' tells the sad story of gun crime in the classroom.

The nameless main character was always 'normal', a good kid in his daily life... But he had deeper needs than that, as Kelly sings in the opening verse:

'But good don't get attention... cause smart don't make you cool.'

Basically, this young man gets the attention he really needs by