

Year 6

God is Truth 3 Weeks



Outcomes

At the completion of this module students will understand that:

- There are many external voices that try to deceive us.
- We can rely on God's Word as the source of truth.
- Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.
- There is only one true God.

Related classroom topics for Science, Social Studies and Health:

Advertising and the media; shopping and food advertising

Link between "God is Truth" and classroom topics:

Are the messages we receive from the world around us telling the truth?

Values:

honesty, fairness and respect for truth and justice; integrity

Biography: Saint Alban

God is Truth

Week 1

Jesus, the Good Shepherd

Bible references

John 10:1-18 The Good Shepherd. The sheep recognise his voice.

Matthew 7:15-21 Wolves in sheep's clothing.

John 18:37 Everyone that is of the truth hears my voice.

Psalms 19:7-8 The law of the Lord is perfect.

The Truth Game

Prepare a variety of objects that are imitations of the real thing. Choose two players to guess which one is real and which one is imitation. (Let them observe the objects from a distance.)

Examples:

- leather and vinyl
- gold and imitation metal
- orange juice and orange drink
- a drinking glass and a clear plastic cup
- a real plant and an imitation plant
- real fruit and imitation fruit
- real pearls/gemstones and imitations

Discussion

How can we be deceived by advertisements? Are products as good as they appear to be?

Examples: Think about the way in which boxes of washing powder, biscuits or breakfast cereals are packaged. Do they look as if they hold more than they really do?

Think about advertisements on TV. Do they tell the truth?

What about things we hear? Do we believe everything we hear?

All around us there are people telling us things. Many people have false ideas and beliefs that do not match up to the Bible. Some people say that God did not create the world, but it all began with a big explosion somewhere out in space. Some people believe they can get to God through religions that are based on idols and false gods.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." We must make sure that we only believe the truth. We can measure truth by comparing ideas or beliefs with the Bible. Just as scales can give a true measure or a false measure, the things we see and hear can also give a true or false measure when they are compared to what the Bible says.

Read Ephesians 4:1

Bible study: The Good Shepherd

Read the story from John 10:1-15.

What does the sheep-fold represent?

What kind of people try to get into it? (verse 1)

How can the sheep tell the difference between the true shepherd and a stranger? (verse 3)

How should the sheep guard against strangers? (verse 5)

How can we guard against people who try to lead us in false directions?

What does Jesus mean when He says, "I am the door"? (verses 7-9)

Read John 18:37. How can we hear the voice of Jesus?

Story: A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

This is a story that teaches us something. This type of story is called a 'fable', similar to a parable. This story is one of a collection written a long time ago by a man called Aesop.

The hungry wolf sat and watched a flock of fat sheep. His mouth watered as he thought about the tasty meal he could get from any one of them. But how could he get in amongst the flock without being noticed by the watchful shepherd?

The wolf sat and thought for a while. He noticed an old sheep skin on the ground, the remains of his last week's meal. That gave him a most brilliant idea. If he were to put the sheep skin over his own back he would look just like a sheep. Then he could creep in amongst the flock without being noticed and make his kill.

The wolf waited until sunset so that he would not be noticed in the dim light. He crept in and stood in the middle of the flock. His trick seemed to be working. It was now time for the sheep to be herded into the pen for the night. The wolf went along with the sheep.

"Once in the pen," thought the wolf, "I will have my big chance. The shepherd will go to bed for the night and I will have the sheep all to myself."

The shepherd opened the gate of the pen. One by one the sheep went through. However, the old wolf's disguise was not quite good enough to fool the shepherd.

"This is not one of my sheep!" said the shepherd to himself as the wolf passed through the gate. The wolf had his head down and did not see the big knife tucked into the shepherd's belt. As quick as lightning the shepherd lunged toward the wolf and slit his throat.

"You old rogue," he said to himself. "You're still a wolf, whatever you're wearing."

Adapted from Aesop's Fables

Questions:

1. What is the important message we can learn from this fable?
2. Find four words used in Psalm 19:7-8 to describe God's Word.
3. Read Matthew 7:15-21. How do we know who is telling the truth?

How can I tell others about the truth?

I can tell them what Jesus has done.

I can tell them that Jesus is the only way to God.

I can tell them that I know Jesus is real.

I can tell them that God has given us His Word, the Bible.

God is Truth

Week 2

Jesus, the way, the truth, the life

Bible references

Matthew 7:13-14 The broad and narrow way

John 14:6-7 I am the way, the truth, the life.

Matthew 16:13-17 Jesus asks "Who am I?"

Acts 4:12 No other name by which we are saved.

Bible lesson

Jesus asks "Who am I?"

Read Matthew 16:13-17.

The people of Israel had been waiting for the one whom God had promised. They knew that a 'Christ' was coming because the writings of the Old Testament had promised it. 'Christ' is another word for 'Messiah', which means, 'someone who would deliver (or rescue), the people'.

God had used Moses many years before to deliver the Israelites from slavery, but the new deliverer, Jesus, would save the people from sin. He would be able to forgive people for their sin. The new deliverer would be God's own Son.

Jesus had not told anyone that He was the Christ, or that He was the Son of God. However, Peter just knew. (Verse 17)

Bible research

John 14:6-7

Think about each of these carefully.

Jesus is the Way.....*to where?*

Jesus is the Truth.....*compared to what?*

Jesus is the Life.....*What kind of life?*

Read Acts 4:12.

Jesus is the only way we can come to know the Father. What must we do to receive eternal life? Can we get to the Father any other way?

Read Matthew 7:13-14.

We could say that the people walking on the narrow road are those who come to know God through Jesus. We could also say that those who are walking on the broad road are trying to get to God by other means. What are some other ways which people use to try to get to God?

Activity

Make a poster about who Jesus is. Fill in the letters JESUS with colourful patterns.

God is Truth

Week 3

The one true God

Bible references

Acts 17:16-34 The unknown god.

Exodus 20:3-4; Isaiah 42:8 & 17 No other gods.

Bible lesson: Paul in Athens

Find Athens on a map.

Athens, the capital of Greece, is an important city. In Bible times Athens was one of the greatest cities in the world. It was a place where people could come to learn about many things, but unfortunately no one had ever heard about God. As well as having many well-educated people, Athens also had many fine artists and craftsmen. There were many statues and paintings in honour of their false gods. There were also many beautiful temples where people could come and worship idols.

Discuss carved idols that the students may have seen.

Why did people make these?

Today they may be used for decoration, but what was their original purpose?

Read Acts 17:23.

What did Paul find as he was going through the city of Athens?

Paul explained to the Athenians that the true God does not live in temples but wants to live in our hearts and lives.

Read what Paul said to the Athenians in verses 24, 25 & 29.

Did the people believe Paul? (verses 32-34)

Not everyone will believe in the true God, but God wants us to tell others anyway.

Find out what these verses say about worshipping false gods:

Exodus 20:3-4 and Isaiah 42:8 & 17

Many people today worship false gods. False gods don't always have to be gods from another religion. A false god can be anything that is more important to a person than the true God.

Discussion

What are some of the things that people may mistake for being the true God? (*idols; money; possessions; the intelligence of the human race*)

How could we help a person understand that Jesus is the truth?

Activity

Complete this cartoon strip. Help this person who is searching for truth.