



Beacon Education

Supporting Christian schooling worldwide

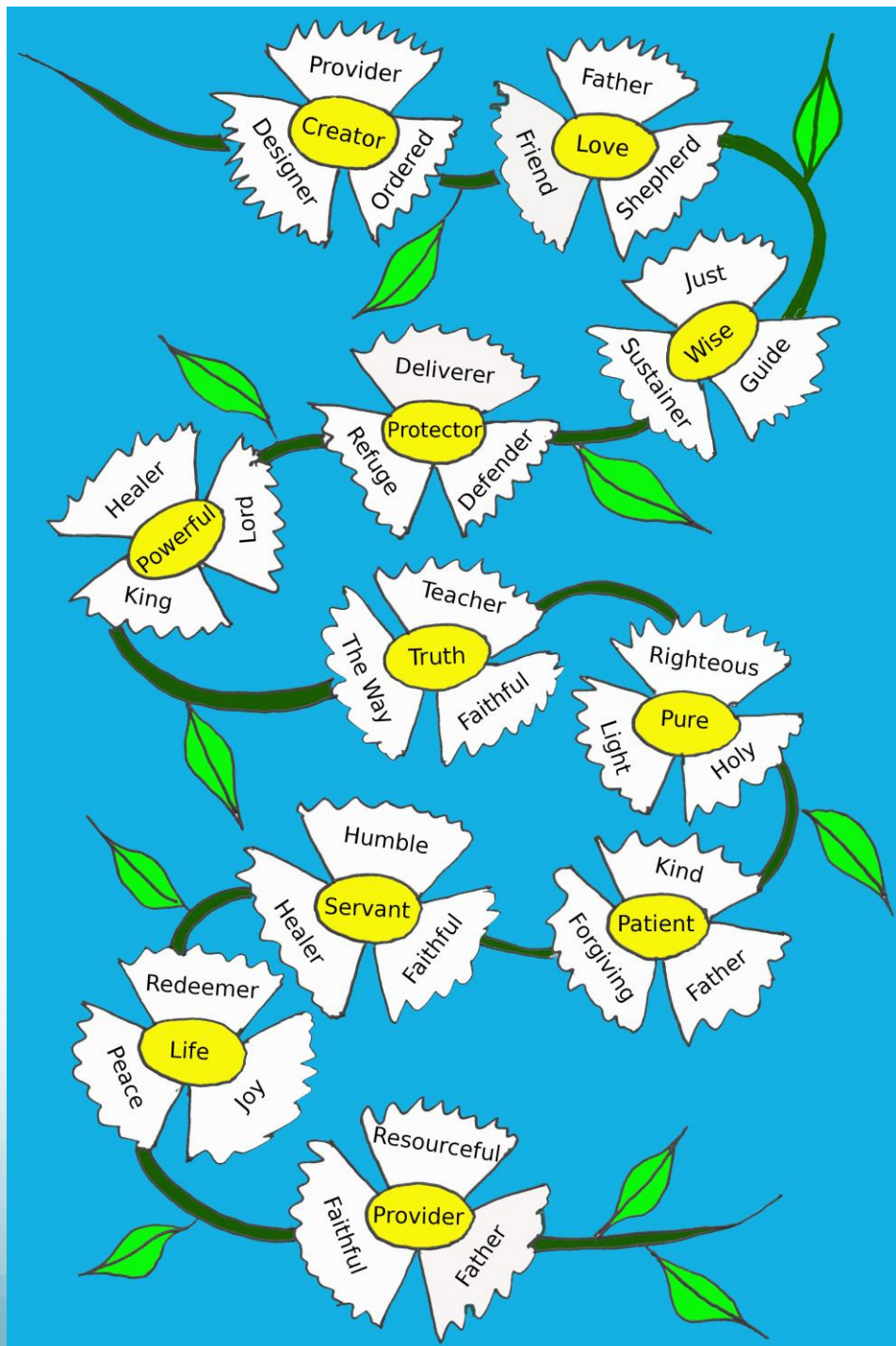
The character of God

The *Beacon Education* vision

- To bring students into a heart knowledge of God, through an understand in of His character.
- To assist schools in becoming lights to the world
- To make the school a place of love, joy, inspiration and excellence



The character of God



**Our curriculum is founded on
The character and nature of God.
10 themes**

God is...



Jesus the loving shepherd
John 10

Love – 5 weeks

Shepherd

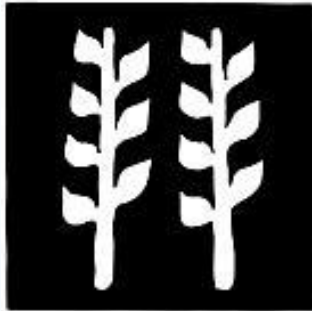
Friend

Father

Faithful

Kind, Gracious

God is...



*I have provided
all kinds of grains
and all kinds of
fruits for you to
eat – Gen 1:29*

Provider

Father

Faithful

Generous

Resourceful

God is...



*For God so loved
the world that he
gave His only
Son... John 3:16*

Our Saviour – 3 weeks

Easter theme

He died to save us

He lives today

He forgives us and wants to be our
friend

God is...



*Wash me and I will
be whiter than snow
– Psalm 51:7*

Pure & Holy – 4 weeks

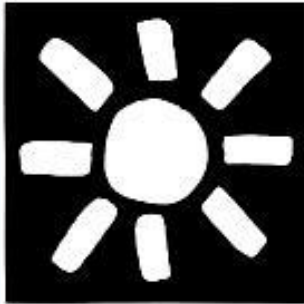
Holy

Righteous

Good

Light

God is...



You created the moon to mark the months; the sun knows the time to set. Psalm 104:19

Creator – 5 weeks

Designer

Powerful

Ordered

Awesome

Resourceful

God is...



*Learn from the
wisdom of the ant.
Prov.6:6*

Wise – 4 weeks

Just

Guide

All-knowing

Truth

Right

God is...



*Let love cause
you to serve one
another. Gal 5:13*

A Servant – 4 weeks

Faithful

Healer

Humble

Sacrificial

God is...



The name of the Lord is a strong tower. Prov 18:10

Protector – 3 weeks

Refuge

Deliverer

Defender

Father

God is...



*Live a life that
measures up to the
standard God set.
Eph 4:1*

Truth – 3 weeks

Faithful

Just

Teacher

The Way

God is...



He is the King of kings and
Lord of Lords. Rev 19:16

Lord & King – 3 weeks

Christmas theme

He came into the world to save us

He is the Son of God

He is in charge of the whole world

Why teach about the character and nature of God, and not just the Bible?

- Heart knowledge and not just head knowledge
- Relationship with God
- Faith in a supernatural God
- Development of character development – an understanding of who God is requires a response from us

What is our response to an understanding God's character?

As we come to understand each attribute of God's character and nature, a response is required of us. This response is like a reflection in a mirror.

Micah 6:8 He has told you O man what is good; And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Character development should be taught as an outworking of knowing the character of God.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (New Living Translation)

So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

Looking closely at the glory of Lord and learning about His character, causes us to *reflect* His character.



Our response...our values



God is Creator

Stand in awe of God's power; believe God's plan for the world, beginning with a literal 6 day creation.



God is Love

Love others as Christ loves us. Forgive, be kind, be gentle.



God is Wise

Seek God's opinion, not our own. Do what Jesus would do. Know that wisdom comes from obeying God.



God is Protector

Trust and have confidence in a great and powerful God, a loving father.



God is Lord and King

Trust that God is in control; have faith.



God is Truth

Know that Jesus is the only way; demonstrate discernment; tell the truth and live the truth; know that the Bible is truth.



God is Pure and Holy

**Ask for God's forgiveness and salvation.
Be pure in words and deeds. Obey God.**



God is a Servant

Follow the example of Jesus, the greatest servant; serve one another with humility; put others first and self last.



God is our Saviour

**Jesus gives us new life when we accept Him as Saviour.
Live the Christian life by demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit.**



God is a Provider

Trust and have confidence that He cares for us and will provide for us. Do not worry!

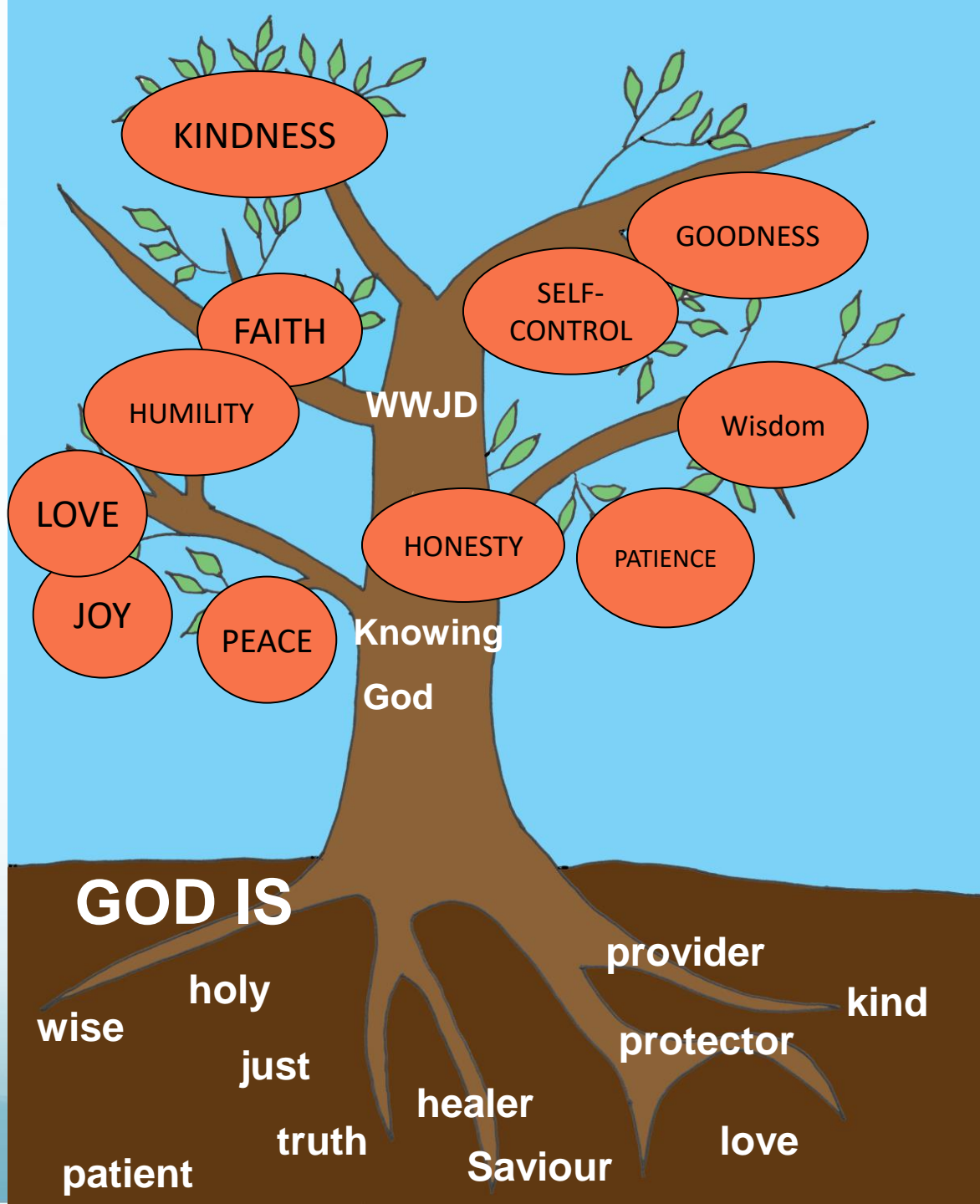
How do we teach values?

- Focus FIRST on who God is.
e.g. He wants us to be loving, because He is.
- THEN teach the value that comes out of knowing who God is.
- The attribute of God is the primary focus, (not the value).

WWJD?



- We love because God loves us.
- We serve because Jesus served.
- We are patient because God is patient with us.
- We do what's right because God is pure and holy.
- We are thankful and generous because God is our provider.



Teach students to know God...

- Not just to know about Him.
- Not just to be good citizens.



God-centred topic studies make a link between the *topic* of study, and *God*.



Examples:

Topics based on God's Creation show us that God is the Creator and our Provider. E.g. plants, animals, food



Studies of human relationships give opportunity to learn of God's love, purity, forgiveness, protection and service, e.g. The family, the elderly, community servants

Connect with God



Studies of God's creatures teach us lessons in God's wisdom, diligence and willingness to serve, e.g. community insects.



A study of the solar system shows the love of Creator God, who wanted to create a special place for us, with conditions unlike any other planet.

Your classroom

a place of big and small miracles!

- The miracles take place when the students come into an understanding of God's character as they see it throughout the curriculum.
- This understanding goes deep into the hearts of the students and reflects in their lives.



It's all about remembering



- You shall remember the Lord your God...but if you ever forget the Lord your God and go after other gods and worship them then you shall surely perish, (Deut 8:18-19).
- Remember your creator in the days of your youth, (Ecc 12:1).



- Joshua told the Israelites to construct a visual reminder – a monument of stones – so that they would always remember how the Lord opened up the River Jordan so they could walk through on dry ground. (Joshua 3: 16-17)
- “When your children ask their father in time to come, ‘What are these stones?’ you shall tell them that Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.” (Joshua 4:21-22)

What are our visual reminders of the character of God?

- Create a visual display of the attribute of God.
- The children make of decorate the sign.



The display includes the attribute of God

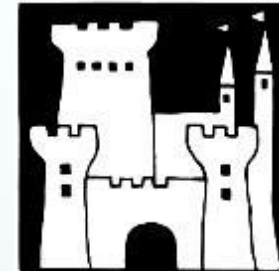
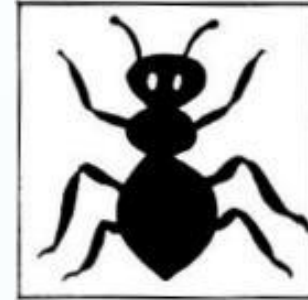
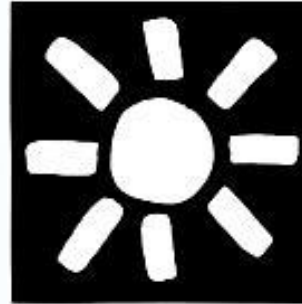


This "God is Powerful" sign has been made by the children.

A visual reminder

- The values, or response to the attribute of God's character are secondary.
- Refer to the visual display when you are teaching.
- Teach the children the connection between the character theme and the topic of study.
- e.g. In our topic, "The Family", what are we learning about God?

A visual reminder



The symbols can also be used as a visual reminder.

Ask the students to draw them. They can add one by one on a chart, as you progress through the year. Explain what they mean.

Examples of topics linked to Character:

God is a Healing Servant

Topic: the Medical Profession



Doctors and nurses help us when we are sick



Jesus healed many people

God is Pure and Holy

Topic: Light



God created light. We need light to stay alive.



Light can be split into colours.

God is light. In Him there is no darkness. Walk in the light as He is in the light. 1 John 1:5-7

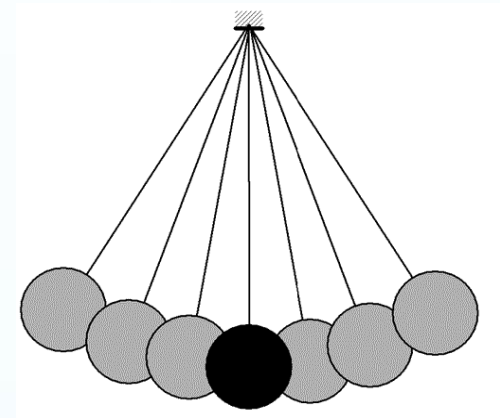
God is Truth

Topic: Gravity and Pendulums

The universe is held together by the laws that God created. Gravity is one of these laws.



A swing is a pendulum.



A swinging pendulum comes to rest at 90 degrees.

Galileo discovered pendulums. He stood up for God's truth.

Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stood up for God's truth.

Elements of the thematic God-centred curriculum (GCC)

- Scripture program
- Biographies
- Science, Social Studies, Health (includes topic-based research cards for students)
- Teachers' topic guides
- Values education
- Art

What about Maths and Literacy?

- These two subjects don't have to tie directly into the thematic curriculum. They follow their own path, developing skill upon skill.
- The same for Phys ed and Music

The results of the God-centred curriculum

- God teaches us lessons - students, teachers and parents.
- Children will report testimonies of how God has worked.

Stay connected in all you teach



JESUS
*is the vine,
we are the branches*

Fijian value	God's character	Our response
Compassion	Love	Love, care, kindness
Cultural understanding & tolerance	Love and Truth	Love people of all people; Hold fast to God's truth
Family and community	Love, Protector	Love, respect for children; working with parents
Safety and security	Wise, Protector	Show wisdom in keeping children safe; trust God for protection

Fiji value	God's character	Our response
Environmental sustainability	Wise, Creator	Respect the Creation; show wisdom the environment clean
Creativity	Creator	Ask God for creativity in your work
Civic pride	Creator; Servant	Keep your city, town, village clean Serve the community
Flexibility	Pure & Holy; Humble Servant	Don't get upset if you are asked to change your plans
Life-long learning	Wise	Learning from others; ask for help if you need it

Fiji value	God's character	Our response
Faith	Saviour	Trust in our Creator; Relationship with Jesus as Saviour and friend
Peace, prosperity	Provide; Protector	Trust God to protect and provide
Honesty, fairness, respect for truth	Truth; Pure & Holy	Honesty in word and deed; Fill out forms without cheating
Integrity, responsibility	Truth; Pure & Holy	Live by the truth; Do what we say we will do; show punctuality and always do your very best