

# God is Love Teacher's Topic Guide Year 8

## Topic: The Family

Duration: 5 weeks

### Spiritual awareness: God cares for families

God is love. He loves every family and has provided families for love, care and protection. Living in families is God's plan. Every family is special. God provides for children and protects them, through the family structure. Children feel safe in the care of their parents. A family provides food, shelter and love.

People in families belong to one another. Parents love their children very much, and children love their parents. It is God's plan for family members to show love, respect, loyalty and support for one another. Family members must learn to trust each other, cooperate with each other and forgive each other.

### Values; Our response to 'God is Love'

- **Love** for God and others
- **Forgiveness**
- **Kindness** and **patience** with others
- **Compassion**: a desire to help others
- **Thankfulness** to God and parents for His provision
- **Generosity**: Sharing with others the things that God has provided
- Feeling of **safety** and **security** through being a part of a family

### Bible stories and passages

Luke 15:11-32 A story about a father who forgave his son.

Luke 2:41-52 A visit to the temple. Jesus obeyed His heavenly Father.

John 10- The Good Shepherd; our heavenly Father loves and cares for us.

Matthew 2 Baby Jesus was protected by the flight to Egypt

Exodus 1-2 Protection of baby Moses

Psalm 68:5-6 God cares for the orphans and protects widows; He gives the lonely a home to live in.

### Bible Verses

2 Corinthians 6:8 I will be your Father and you shall be my sons and daughters.

1 John 3:1 See how much the Father has loved us! His love is so great that He has called us His children.

John 1:12 Those who receive become children of God.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient and kind.

Ephesians 6:1 Children obey your parents in the Lord.

Joshua 24:15 As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.

### Outcomes: Students will

- appreciate that God has created us to belong in families
- understand the love that God our Heavenly Father has for us
- understand that problems may arise within families, and not all parents are perfect, but God is the perfect Father
- understand who the people in their family are, where they were born and raised and how they are related to each other
- understand that families around the world may have different cultural traditions

- understand that there can be different types of families: large, small, single parent, extended, adopted (as in the case of orphaned children)
- describe the caring and protective roles of parents
- describe the responsibilities of children
- recognize that peace and harmony in families is achieved by living the way God wants us to live
- communicate stories of families and the past through photographs, belongings, books, oral histories, digital media, and museums
- Identify changes in family life over the past 100 years. Compare past and present.
- Communicate the value of the contribution of past generations to community life.
- Identify customs, practices, symbols, languages and traditions of their family and of other families.
- Identify characteristics that make another family different from or similar to their own

### **Outcomes for Heredity:**

Students will:

- Understand that traits are observable characteristics that are passed down from parent to child, and are observable.
- an individual will have many traits they share in common with others.
- an individual's overall combination of traits makes them unique.
- Some traits are more common in a population than others.

### **Key Questions**

What is a family?

Why did God choose to place us in families?

How does living in a family help us to get the things we need?

What are some of the problems family members may have in getting along together?

What should we do when we have family disagreements?

How can family members help each other in times of trouble?

How can you be helpful to your family?

How do parents expect their children to behave?

What does God expect?

Who made the rules for families?

What are some of the rules?

What differences are there between life in our great grandparents' day compared to today?

What family likenesses can be observed?

### **Activities for Family:**

- Describe the family life of Jesus as a boy.
- Make a diagram of your family table, looking from above. Use a symbol for each member.
- List members of your immediate family. List other members (extended).
- Create a family tree of your family, yourself through to great grandparents.
- Write a recount of interesting stories that happened in your family history.
- Write a biography of the life of one of your grandparents (or great grandparents). Explain any differences in their ways of life compared to today.
- Discuss different types of families: large, small, single parent.
- Study the work of missionaries who provide homes for children who have been orphaned (Ps. 68:5). Write a report on one organization who has helped orphans.
- Discuss the way that God wants us to treat our family members: *love one another; show respect for parents; helpfulness; express thanks and appreciation; forgive one another*

- Interview 3 older people and record stories they remember about how things were different when they were your age (must include a grandparent).

### **Activity for Heredity:**

Discuss likeness within families.

Divide students into groups of four or more. Have each student in the group complete an “Inventory of My Traits” to determine their unique combination of the traits described.

After students complete the survey, have them tally their group information on the data table and draw a bar graph

Inventory of traits (tick for yes, cross for no)

1. I have detached earlobes
2. I can roll my tongue
3. I have dimples
4. I am right-handed
5. I have freckles
6. I have naturally curly hair
7. I cross my left thumb over my right when I clasp my hands together
8. I can see the colors red and green (I am not color blind)
9. The hairline on my forehead is straight.
10. I am a: Male / Female

### **Assessment**

1. Make a time-line that tells the story of your life... Where you were born, specific events throughout your life.
2. How has learning about families also taught me about God and the Bible?

**Beacon Media student research cards:** The Family; Heredity

**Thinking skills:** The Family

**Biographies:** Elizabeth Fry

## **Year 8 Art**

### **God is Love**

#### **The Family**

**Biblical wall art and text:** As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

#### **Portrait Drawing**

Students can draw a head and shoulders portrait of a family member. This can be a homework project, where the subject sits for 1 – 5 minutes a day for a week, or until the portrait is finished.

Students can make a cardboard frame for their portraits which can be put on display.

#### **Book illustration**

Students can write a story and convert their story into an illustrated book as follows:

1. A story book for a younger member of their family
2. A story book telling historical events from their family’s past. Students can interview grandparents, great aunts and uncles or other elderly members of their family. They can find out and record where the earlier family members came from, and any significant stories of the past as told by family.

# Values education Year 8

## God is Love

### Compassion

God is a loving Father who understands how we feel. He knows when we are hurt. He cares for us like a shepherd. He loves people of all cultures and wants us to do the same.

#### Compassion is...

- knowing when someone is hurting
- doing my best to help when they are hurt
- giving up my own time to make someone feel better
- listening to someone's problems
- being sensitive to the needs of others
- trying to understand how people feel

#### Activities

1. Imagine that you are born blind.  
What are some of the difficulties you face?  
How would you like others to treat you?
2. How can we show compassion to people who live in places where there is famine?

#### What does the Bible say about compassion?

Luke 10:25-36 The Good Samaritan

Matthew 9:36 Jesus was moved with compassion.

2 Samuel 4 & 9 King David had compassion on the lame prince, Mephibosheth.

1 John 4: 7-8 God is Love

Romans 12:9 Love without hypocrisy

Matthew 5: 43-44 Love your neighbour

Psalms 23 The caring nature of the shepherd

John 10 The Good Shepherd

**Thinking Skills Love Yr 8**

Year 8 Love

<p><b>The Family 1</b></p> <p>What are 10 things you will not say to your children?</p>	<p><b>The Family 2</b></p> <p>You could be a parent in 20 years time with 10 children... Write down the names you would call them and say why you chose each name.</p>
<p><b>The Family 3</b></p> <p>Design the most memorable feast/celebration that your family will ever have. Include the kind of food, who is invited and what entertainment will be provided.</p>	<p><b>The Family 4</b></p> <p>List 5 things that make your family different to others.</p>
<p><b>The Family 5</b></p> <p>Describe the perfect family. Write 10 helpful rules for family members to live a Godly life.</p>	<p><b>The Family 6</b></p> <p>Write an acrostic for your family name. For each letter, write a worthy attribute that would make your family a strong family, e.g. "L" for loyalty</p>