

# God is our Saviour Teacher's Topic Guide Year 3

## Topic: Australia & New Zealand

Duration: 3 weeks

- God's love embraces all cultures. As Christians, we are commanded to love our neighbour. This extends beyond the person living next door. As in the story of the Good Samaritan, kindness to our neighbour may mean showing kindness to someone from another country.
- The true meaning of 'loving our neighbour' is to show personal interest and appreciation, and to extend God's love to them.

### Activities

- Identify the 7 continents of the world: North and South America, Africa, Australia, Europe, Asia, Antarctica
- Draw maps of Australia and New Zealand.
- Mark major cities, geographical features including seas and oceans, and tourist attractions on a map
- Learn about the first Australians and the first New Zealanders.
- Create some Australian Aboriginal / Maori art
- Draw and display pictures of animals from Australia and New Zealand

**Notes: ([www.operationworld.org](http://www.operationworld.org))**

### Australia

#### Geography

This island continent is the world's driest, but has higher rainfall in the east, southeast and southwest coastal regions, where most live in highly concentrated urban areas.

**Capital:** Canberra

**People living in cities:** 89.1%

#### Challenges for Prayer

While over two-thirds of Australians identify themselves in some way as Christian, only 10% regularly attend church, and increasing numbers have negative attitudes toward the Church, believing that Biblical values are intolerant. (People would rather do as they please than take notice of the Bible.) Most people believe that you can pick-and-choose your religion and all are the same. Church attendance is rapidly declining.

### New Zealand

#### Geography

Two mountainous main islands 1,600 km southeast of Australia.

**Capital:** Wellington

**People living in cities:** 86.8%

New Zealanders are also called 'Kiwis'.

**Official language:** English. Māori is also spoken.

#### Challenges for Prayer

As in Australia, the number of people calling themselves "non-religious" is rapidly increasing. Church attendance declining. About 14% attend church weekly; 40% of Kiwis attended church in the past but no longer do so.

# Values education Year 3

## God is our Saviour

### God's love for people of every nation

God created people differently. He loves all people, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity.

#### Our response to God is our Saviour

**John 3:16: For God loved the whole world so much that He gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not die but have everlasting life.**

- **kindness, patience and gentleness** towards others
- **compassion** towards those who are hurting or in need
- **friendliness, forgiveness and faithfulness**
- **love and acceptance** of people from all nationalities and cultural backgrounds
- understand that Jesus died for the whole world, every person of every nation.
- recognize that God loves all people equally.
- show kindness and consideration to all.
- accept and love others, but this does not mean accepting beliefs that are against the truth of the Bible.

#### Outcomes:

- Identify and locate the seven continents of the world on a world map.
- Learn the compass points: north, south, east west, and be able to refer to locations using these terms.
- Locate Australia and New Zealand on the world map
- Locate the geographical position of Fiji in relation to Australia and New Zealand
- Research climatic conditions of Australia and New Zealand, noting the seasonal changes in weather
- Research major tourist attractions of Australia and New Zealand, e.g. Great Barrier Reef; Uluru, Sydney, Canberra (Australia); volcanoes, hot springs, ski fields (New Zealand)
- Research the first inhabitants of Australia and New Zealand (Australian Aboriginals and New Zealand Maoris)
- Compare cultural backgrounds of original inhabitants to Pacific Islanders.
- Research the early settlement of white people in Australia and New Zealand. Which countries did they come from? Why did they come?
- Identify animals and plants of Australia and New Zealand
- Name some of the foods grown in Australia and New Zealand. Which foods are exported to Fiji?
- Realize that God loves everyone equally and wants everyone to come to know Him through His Son

#### Bible stories and passages

- Mark 10:13-16 Jesus loves all the children of the world
- Luke 10:27; Matthew 22:39 Love the Lord with all your heart...and your neighbour as yourself.
- Romans 3:19-26 People could not be made right with God by following the law, so God made another way, so that all nations would have opportunity to come to Him.
- Acts 10:34-36 The gospel for all nations
- Acts 16:6-10 Taking the gospel to the nations

### **Activities and discussion**

1. Compare way of life in your country with that of Australia and New Zealand. Look for similarities and differences.
2. What can we learn from Australia and New Zealand? Why have many people in Australia and New Zealand stopped going to church? How does this compare to our country?

### **What does the Bible say about accepting people of different cultures?**

- Luke 10:25-38 The Good Samaritan
- John 3:16 God so loved the WHOLE world that He gave His son
- Revelation 7:9 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from **every nation**, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.
- Matthew 22:37-39 Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbour as yourself. (Neighbour refers to people of other nationalities)
- John 4:1-26 Jesus and the Samaritan woman.

# Art Year 3

## God is our Saviour

### Topic: Australia and New Zealand

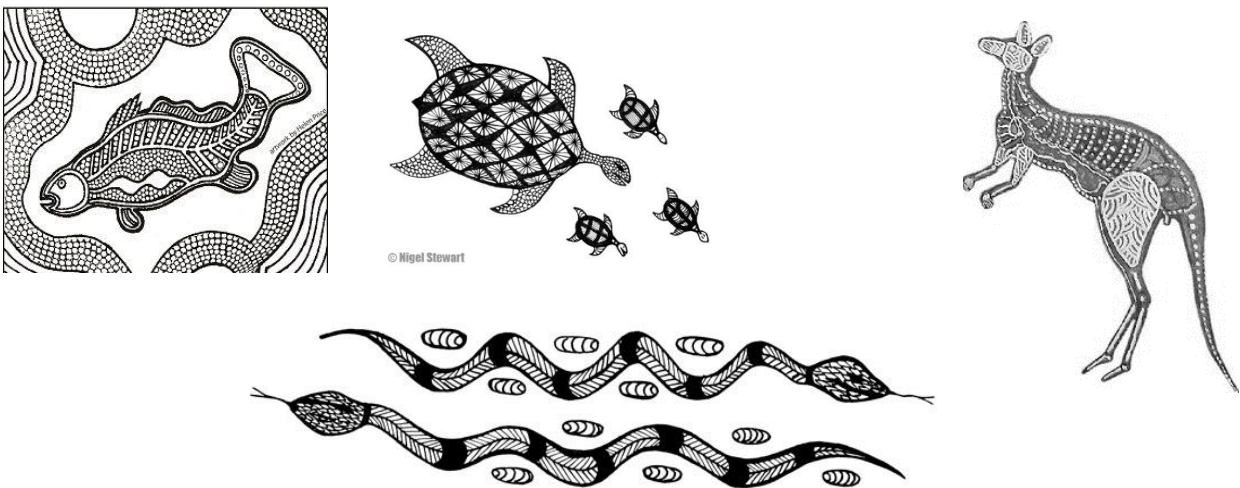
**Biblical connection:** God loves the people of every nation of the world. He sent Jesus to give every person an opportunity to accept and follow Him. We thank God for sending missionaries to our country to tell us about Jesus.

**Bible art as a wall display:** Jesus said, "Go to every part of the world and tell people about Me." Mark 16:15

Make a display of a map of the world and highlight Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

#### 1. Australian Aboriginal dot paintings /drawings

Students can try some tradition Australian Aboriginal art. The traditional style shows dots and patterns. Typically, the outline of an animal is drawn and the inside divided up into shapes, then the shapes filled with pattern. Often the internal organs are shown. Patterns are added around the animal shape to complete the picture. Colours were those found around them: the colours of clay, plants and animal blood.



#### 2. New Zealand Maori art

Students can try doing some traditional Maori art. Maori art is similar to Fijian art because the Maori people are originally from the Pacific Islands. The patterns are rounded and swirling, and not dotty like Australian Aboriginal art. Because there were no land animals apart from birds in New Zealand, we only see traditional paintings showing plants and birds. A favourite plant is the silver fern.



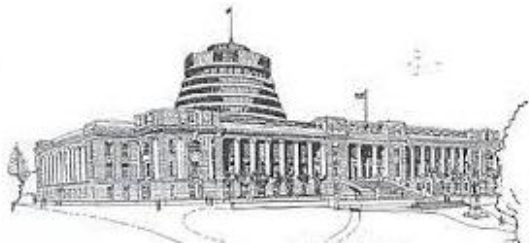
**Combined art / writing activity:**

Ask the students to write a story about the importance of the fish hook symbol to the Māori people. Traditional Māori people were good at fishing and food from the sea was very important to them.

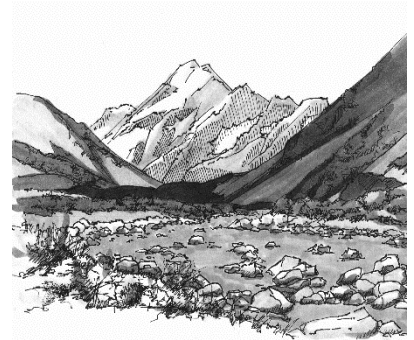


**1. Landmarks of New Zealand**

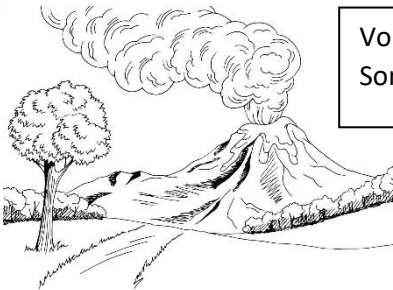
Make a poster showing some of the major landmarks or tourist attractions, e.g.



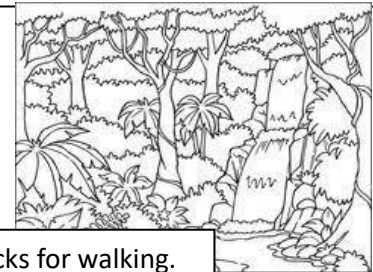
Parliament House with the Beehive building in Wellington, the capital city.



Mt. Cook, in the South Island - the highest mountain. Snow covered mountains for skiing.



Volcanoes on the North Island. Some are still active.



Rainforests with tracks for walking.

Thinking Skills

Year 3 God is our Saviour

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 1</b></p> <p>Lots of cars and buses People everywhere! Everything's so busy There's no time to stop and stare. But when we're in the country We seem to slow right down. The air is smelling clean and fresh More trees than in the town.</p> <p>List 3 words that remind you of the city and 3 for the country.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 2</b></p> <p>Make a list of the things people may not like about the city.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 3</b></p> <p>Make a list of the things people may not like about the country.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 4</b></p> <p>Make a list of things people may like about the city.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 5</b></p> <p>Make a list of things people may like about the country.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City or country 6</b></p> <p>You have been given enough money to buy a place in the country. Draw a plan of your place looking down from a helicopter.</p>