

# God is A Servant Teacher's Topic Guide Year 4

## Topic: Gifts and Talents

Duration: 4 weeks

### Spiritual Awareness: Be faithful in little things

God has given each one of us different gifts and talents. It is our responsibility to develop these gifts and talents so that we may use them to serve God and others. Using our gifts and talents for God is being faithful to the One who gave us these abilities in the first place. It is important to use our gifts and talents with humility.

### Values: Our response to 'God is a Servant'

- **Service:** follow the example of Jesus, the greatest servant
- **Helpfulness:** being willing to help others and put others before our own
- **Appreciation** of people who serve through their occupations
- **Humility:** thanking God for our gifts and realizing that we are not better than anyone else; we all have different gifts

### Outcomes: Students will

- identify occupations within the community and the way in which these occupations serve us
- identify particular skills and talents displayed by people working in professions
- identify personal strengths and weaknesses and to list ways of developing or improving these
- identify strengths in others and to encourage others in their abilities
- understand the importance of encouraging those who lack skills in certain areas
- identify ways of using personal gifts and talents for God, with humility

### Bible stories and passages

- 1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.
- Matthew 25:14-29 Parable of the talents
- Luke 12:35-47 Be faithful in doing what Jesus wants us to do.
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-8 Our God-given gifts
- Matthew 5:15 Don't hide your light under a bushel.
- Luke 18:9-14 The rich man and the tax collector, (pride versus humility).
- Luke 14:7-11 Don't make yourself important.
- Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45 A servant of all

### Bible verses

- Luke 6:10 Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones; whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones.
- Matthew 20:26 If someone wants to be great he must be the servant of the rest.
- Luke 13:30 Those who are now last will be first, and those who are now first will be last.
- Matthew 16:24 Jesus said, "If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget self, carry his cross and follow me."

## Key Questions

What does it mean to serve?

How do people in the community serve us in the jobs they do?

What is a talent? Can you think of a job that requires a talent?

What talents has God given me? What talents has God given my friends / family?

What should I do if I am good at something?

What should I do if I am not good at something?

How can I use my gifts and talents for God?

What is humility? Should I boast about the things I can do well?

## Activities

- List personal gifts and talents and gifts and talents of others.
- Discuss steps we can take in improving in the areas in which we are not gifted.
- Discuss the problem of looking down on people who are not good at the things you are good at.
- Discuss ways in which we can use gifts and talents in serving others and in serving God.
- Identify people in the community who use their gifts and talents in work situations.
- Make a chart showing gifts and talents of every child in the class. Class members can make suggestions.
- Each child can make a card for another child in the class to show appreciation. Use a 'hat' to distribute names. The card can mention gifts and talents of the individual.../ *appreciate you because...*
- Discuss importance of accepting each person, and accepting ourselves, for the way God made us; not complaining about our weaknesses; remembering that we can't be good at everything; not boasting about our strengths.
- Discuss gifts and talents in the Bible. Look up the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. Discuss how these fruits can be gifts to use for others. Also look up the gifts that God gives to us in 1 Corinthians 12:4-8. Discuss personality strengths and special abilities.
- Read the beacon Media "On Safari" stories about gifts and talents.

## Assessment

Use a personal gift or talent to help someone in the community. Present a report on what you did and give an oral presentation to the class.

## Beacon Media resource: "On Safari" literacy resource, Level 26

This is a teaching series on special gifts that we can observe in the animal kingdom, and the examples that we can apply to our own lives.

**Biography:** Joel Bulu

# Values education Year 4

## God is a Servant

### Diligence

God does everything perfectly. He never gives up.

#### Diligence is...

- doing a job properly
- working hard at your job
- not giving up until the job is done (*perseverance*)
- keeping things neat and tidy

#### Activities

1. Take a survey. Find out how many in the group are learning a particular skill that requires diligence. Make a chart. Write the name of each person, the skill they are learning, how often they practice, how long they practice, and whether they find it difficult or easy.
2. Write a list of **distractions** that could occur while you are doing **one** of these things:
  - a) doing homework
  - b) training for athletics
  - c) practicing a musical instrument
  - d) keeping your room tidy
  - e) doing jobs for Mum.
3. Write down the thing that requires the most diligence for **you**. Explain why it can be difficult for you.

#### What does the Bible say about diligence and perseverance?

Philippians 3:14 Run towards the goal.

James 5:7-11 Blessed are those who have persevered.

Acts 9:36-42 Dorcas showed diligence in sewing.

Proverbs 31:10-29 The diligent wife.

Hebrews 6:10-12 Diligence in helping others

# Art Year 4

## God is a Servant

### Topic: Gifts and talents

#### **Biblical connection**

The story of the talents reminds us that God expects us to identify, develop and use the gifts and talents He has given us, for His glory, and to serve Him.

#### **Bible art as a wall display:** the story of the talents

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you find to do, do it with all your heart.

#### **Expressing gifts and talents through visual art**

This theme can be an opportunity for students to find and develop their creative talents. Provide students with a variety of art materials, and give opportunity for a variety of art forms, such as painting, drawing, construction, threads and textiles, collage.

Also use this theme to allow students to make gifts for others.

The study on diligence in the 'values' section is an opportunity to apply diligence to art or craft projects that require much patience and precision, e.g. small dot painting; sewing projects

#### **Studying artists and art work who have used their gifts and talents**

This is an opportunity to study art work of talented and famous people. The study can extend to architecture.

A challenging example is the art of people who have lost the use of their arms and take up painting with their foot or mouth. One such painter is the Christian, Joni Eareckson, (Biography can be revised from Term 1 God is Love).

## Thinking Skills

Year 4 Servant

<p><b>Gifts and Talents 1</b></p> <p>Write words or phrases next each letter – something to do with</p> <p>N U R S E</p>	<p><b>Gifts and talents 2</b></p> <p>Think of 3 professions for a person who is good at music.</p>
<p><b>Gifts and talents 3</b></p> <p>Think of 3 professions for a person who is good at Mathematics.</p>	<p><b>Gifts and talents 4</b></p> <p>Think of 3 professions for a person who is good at sport.</p>
<p><b>Gifts and talents 5</b></p> <p>What are some similarities between a plumber and an electrician?</p>	<p><b>Gifts and talents 6</b></p> <p>What are some differences between a teacher and a dentist?</p>