

God is A Servant Teacher's Topic Guide Year 8

Topic: Missionaries

Duration: 4 weeks

Spiritual Awareness: Spreading the Good News

We are instructed to go into all the world, preaching the Good News to the nations. For some, this can mean going across the street, but for many, it means going to another nation. Taking the Gospel message is not easy, but God promises to be with us.

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

- **Service:** follow the example of Jesus, the greatest servant
- **Helpfulness:** being willing to help others and put others before our own
- **Courage**

Outcomes: Students will

- study the biographies of famous missionaries
- develop an awareness of the work of missionaries today
- pray for missionaries and cultures in need of the Gospel
- identify countries on the world map
- gain an understanding of the geography and culture of countries where missionaries are working

Biblical references

Matthew 28:16-20 - Go and make disciples of all nations...I am with you always.

Mark 16:15-18 - Go into all the world and preach the Good News...and these signs will accompany those who believe.

John 14:12 - You will do greater things.

Acts 8:26-40 - Philip shares the Good News with an Ethiopian.

Acts 16:6-15 - A call from Macedonia.

Acts 19:23-41 - Trouble at Ephesus

Acts 7:51-60 - Stephen gives his life for Jesus.

2 Timothy 1:11-12 - Paul made sacrifices to serve.

Hebrews 13:15-16; 1 Peter 2:5 - Sacrifices we can make.

Ephesians 5:2 - Jesus gave Himself up for us.

Revelation 2:10 - Faithfulness to the end

Matthew 5:14 - Christians are lights to the world.

Luke 12:35-47 - Faithfulness in serving Jesus.

Matthew 16:24 - Take up your cross.

Key Questions

What do missionaries do?

Who can be a missionary?

What difficulties do missionaries face?

What is sacrifice?

Why could we say that missionaries serve in a sacrificial way?

Was Jesus a missionary?

Why could we say that Jesus made the greatest sacrifice?

How did Jesus serve when He was on earth?

What is a faithful servant?

How can we be faithful servants?

What can we learn about serving from the lives of early Christian missionaries?

Activities

- Define the term 'missionary'.
- Discuss the work of a missionary. Discuss the link between meeting practical needs and sharing the gospel.
- List the types of work a missionary can do, e.g. offering medical aid, feeding the hungry, sharing the gospel through art, music, drama.
- Read the biographies of famous missionaries.
- Study the geography of the places the selected missionaries traveled – in this case, Pacific Islands and New Guinea.
- Invite missionaries as guest speakers
- Research information on geography, people, economy, politics, religion and prayer needs of different countries.
- Pray for nations and find them on a world map.
- Present a project or class talk on a country where missionaries are working today.
- Compare the differences in sharing the Gospel, past and present.
- Identify problems encountered by missionaries.
- Identify needs of particular nations.
- Discuss ways of being a missionary in our own nation.

Assessment

1. Present a short talk or create wall story about one significant missionary.
2. What have I learned from the study of missionaries...
 - about God?
 - about doing what God wants me to do?
 - about the Bible?

Biographies: Thomas Baker, David Cargill and William Cross, Don Richardson, The Fijian call to New Guinea

Values education Year 8

God is a Servant

Sacrifice

Sacrifice is...

To give up something in order to help others, or as an act of service to God

Activities

People make big and small sacrifices every day. Parents make sacrifices for their children. Community workers make sacrifices to help us.

1. Make a list of sacrifices a mother has to make for a new-born baby.
2. Make a list of sacrifices your parents make for you.
3. What would an athlete need to give up? (junk food, free time, their homes – if they have to train elsewhere)
4. What sacrifices do doctors and nurses make? (free time, sleep, money for education, years of their lives, etc.)
5. What would missionaries need to give up? (their homes, cultures, family, freedoms, money, favorite foods, etc.)
6. What kind of sacrifices might you have to make in being part of your family?
7. What sacrifices might you make to help someone outside of your family?
8. What sacrifices might you give up in order to serve God?
9. What greater rewards does God give to those who give up things to serve Him?

What does the Bible have to say about sacrifice, or giving things up?

Matthew 8:18-20. What did Jesus give up in these verses? (A home! He left the mansions of heaven to come to earth and He never even had a place to lay His head!)

Matthew 10:39 Whoever loses his life will find it.

Art Year 8

God is a Servant

Art of the Pacific Islands and New Guinea

Biblical wall art and text: Jesus said, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:19

Traditional art of New Guinea

The traditional people of New Guinea created masks and carved figures with scary faces. All art is based on spirit worship, still practiced by many today. The carvings are created to be inhabited by spirits. They are intended both to help the people meet the challenges of everyday life and to ward off the influences of unfriendly spirits. Many of the carvings are also used in ceremonies and rituals that mark the important stages of life.

Apart from carvings, the traditional people of New Guinea painted their bodies with patterns, made head dresses from feathers, and jewelry from shells.

Traditional art of the Pacific Islands

Oceanic artifacts were not made with any notion of their being "art" as the word is used in the West. Oceanic painting, sculpture and wood-carving were conceived as an integral part of the religious and social ceremony of everyday island life. The art works were linked to ancestor-worship and spirit-worship. The focus on fertility is recurrent and there are also more sinister signs of occasional headhunting and ritual cannibalism.

Masks and ornamented skulls as well as ancestor statues, abound. Traditional motifs are incised, carved or painted on canoes, paddles, shields, pottery, stools and vessels.

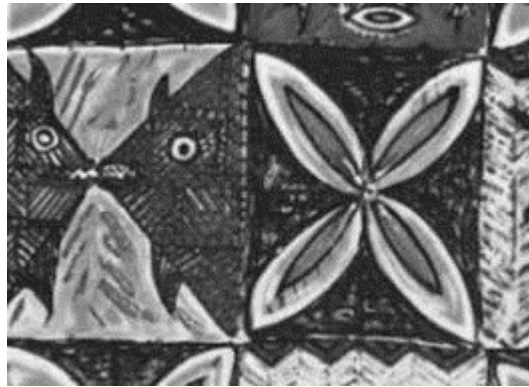
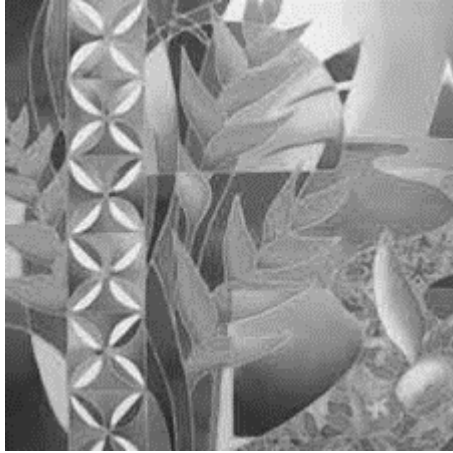
The objects or patterns designed were often conceived to impart some supernatural power, and usually reflect the imagery of local ceremonies. In addition to these types of religious art, various forms of "living" body art were also practiced, like body painting, tattooing and face-painting.

Apart from art used in a spiritual context, Pacific Islanders also developed patterned cloth called tapa.



Contemporary art of the Pacific Islands

The patterned art tradition continues today with the emphasis on nature, and bright colours. The beautifully printed fabrics are popular with both local people and tourists who visit the Pacific Islands.



Art projects

Create some contemporary Pacific Island art, e.g.

- A wall hanging
- A piece of fabric for a garment or tablecloth
- A tapa table mat



Thinking Skills

Year 8 Servant

<p>Serving 1</p> <p>What if ...</p> <p>All transport workers resigned from their jobs?</p>	<p>Serving 2</p> <p>Make a jobs list (Monday to Friday), for all the children in your family.</p>
<p>Serving 3</p> <p>Make a list of the things that the first missionaries to Fiji did NOT have.</p>	<p>Serving 4</p> <p>What if...</p> <p>You gave up your bed to a homeless person. Where would you sleep? How would you feel?</p>
<p>Serving 5</p> <p>Make a list of countries that are in most need of missionaries.</p>	<p>Serving 6</p> <p>List 5 items that a missionary could use to spread the Gospel.</p>