

God is Love Teacher's Topic Guide Year 6

Topic: History/Geography of the Pacific Islands & the impact of missionaries

Duration: 5 weeks

Spiritual Awareness:

God loved the world so much that He sent His Son to a world that was suffering. The Fijian nation suffered under the weight of evil practices such as spirit worship and cannibalism. God extended His love through the message brought by the missionaries, and with it came change. Only the love of God could have motivated the early missionaries to make such great sacrifices, and for many, their lives.

Our response to 'God is Love'

Because God is a love I will...

- Love God
- Share God's love with others
- Thank Him for the love that He has shown towards Fiji
- Appreciate the great sacrifice made by the early missionaries in sharing the Gospel

Biblical references

John 15:13 There is no greater love than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

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...

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

How did the coming of missionaries change the Fijian culture?

What aspects of the Fijian culture have been preserved and which aspects have disappeared?

What new practices came about because of the missionaries?

What do missionaries do?

Who can be a missionary?

What difficulties were faced by the early missionaries to Fiji?

What is sacrifice?

Was Jesus a missionary, and what great sacrifice did He make?

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

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

a) History and geography of the Pacific Islands:

- understand how to determine Longitude & Latitude using a map
- discern the locations of Pacific Islands on the map
- learn the principles of Pacific Islander navigation and land-finding
- investigate the origins of peoples in the islands they are studying
- learn about migration theories of Pacific Island settlements
- explore the voyaging or sailing/navigation traditions of the Pacific Islands.

b) Missionaries

- Identify the first missionaries: who were they, where did they come from, and when?
- study the biographies of famous missionaries to the Pacific Islands
- discuss the degrees of impact that the missionaries had.
- on a world map, identify countries that sent missionaries to Fiji and the Pacific Islands.
- develop an awareness of the work of missionaries today
- pray for missionaries and cultures in need of the Gospel
- Compare the differences in sharing the Gospel, past and present.
- Identify problems encountered by missionaries.
- Identify needs of particular nations.

Skills

- research, record and summarize information
- develop mapping skills
- compare aspects of culture and identify changes

Values

- appreciate of the courage and sacrifice of missionaries
- hold to the faith foundation laid down by the missionaries
- share God's love with others

Activities

a) History and Geography of the Pacific Islands

Students can choose to research one or more Pacific Island and share this information with the class, or in a small group, or in pairs. (The Research cards can be laminated and shared – no need to copy a set for each student. They can just choose the country/countries they are doing for their project.)

Using a blank map of the chosen Pacific Island students can mark in:

- Agricultural land
- Forest Zone
- Zone of habitation
- Waterways
- Seas
- Major cities/towns

Writing exercise based on answers to these questions:

- Why would people leave their homes and go off in search of other islands?
- What would they need to take with them?

- What would life be like on a long ocean journey with no clear destination?
- What are the characteristics of a “good home” on a Pacific Island to an ancient voyager?
- What did this place have to offer the new comers to this island?
- Why would this have been a good place to settle? Is it well-watered or dry? Is it a reef that offers protection?
- Is it sheltered from the winds?
- What were the early canoes like?
- Are there any traditional canoes to be seen today?

b) Missionaries

- Define the term 'missionary'.
- Discuss the work of a missionary. Discuss the link between meeting practical needs and sharing the gospel.
- Discuss how the values of the Missionaries compared with those of the traditional culture.
- Discuss the influence of missionaries on moving the Pacific Islands towards Western Culture. What were the advantages and disadvantages of this?
- What were the geographic impacts of the missionaries? For example, did they establish districts for administration?
- How are these missionaries viewed today?
- List the types of work a missionary can do, e.g. offering medical aid, feeding the hungry, sharing the gospel through art, music, drama.
- Write a summary of the biography of a famous missionary to the Pacific Islands.
- Invite speakers and watch videos of missionary work.
- Discuss ways of being a missionary in our own nation.

Assessment

1. Each student can research one country from the Pacific Islands and present this as a project to the class. (The teacher can make sure that a full range of countries have been covered. See notes at the end of this document.)
2. What have I learned from the study of missionaries...
 - a. about God?
 - b. about doing what God wants me to do?
 - c. about the Bible?

Biographies: James Chalmers, John Paton, Ratu Cakobau; Taufa’ahau

Thinking Skills

Year 6 Love

<p>Missionaries 1</p> <p>A missionary in Ethiopia, a country severely affected by drought, wants to help provide clean water to the community. Give ideas on how to do this.</p>	<p>Missionaries 2</p> <p>A missionary in Communist China wants to support the underground church and provide Bibles. Give ideas on how to help, without being imprisoned.</p>
<p>Missionaries 3</p> <p>A medical missionary wants to educate a remote African community on good hygiene. Brainstorm ideas for what should be taught.</p>	<p>Missionaries 4</p> <p>A mobile maintenance mission team has arrived in a rural village in the Solomon Islands, to help build a kindergarten. They have tools, but all materials must be sourced from the environment. Make a list suitable materials to be sourced.</p>
<p>Missionaries 5</p> <p>A short-term mission team has travelled to Papua New Guinea. List 5 ways the team could share the Gospel.</p>	<p>Missionaries 6</p> <p>A missionary in Indonesia works with a local church to share the Gospel with people who are Muslim. What are the similarities and differences between Christianity and Islam?</p>

Values education Year 6

God is Love

Joyfulness

We can show our love towards others by giving away our joy and making others happy.

Joy is...

- the true happiness that Jesus gives
- being able to carry on when things don't go right
- encouraging others
- a smile
- **J**esus first, **O**thers next and **Y**ourself last.

Activities

1. Make a bright colourful piece of artwork to give away to someone.
2. Make a list of ways in which you can give joy to others this week.

Questions

1. In order to give joy to others, what do you need yourself?
2. What makes you feel joyful?
3. Which colours make you feel joyful?
4. If your best friend is feeling sad, what could you do to cheer them up?

What does the Bible say about joy?

- Galatians 5:22-23 Joy is a fruit of the Spirit.
- Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lords always.
- Psalm 95:1-5 Let us sing for joy to the Lord.
- Psalm 100 Shout for joy to the Lord.
- Psalm 147:1 & 7 How good it is to sing praises to our God.
- Psalm 149 Sing to the Lord a new song.
- Psalm 150 Praise the Lord with dancing.
- Thessalonians 5:16 Be joyful always.
- Acts 16:23-26 Paul and Silas in jail. How do we know they had joy, even though they were going through a bad experience? (Acts 16:23-26)

Choose one of the Psalms from the list of Bible verses above. Take a piece of card and write out the verses that tell us about joy. Decorate your card and give away.

Values education

Sing for joy (Play reading)

Number of characters: 2

Betty: (singing) Sing for joy! Sing for joy! That's how I'm feeling today. I love it when the sun is shining and the sky is blue and I'm able to play outside.

Friend: Hi Betty. You seem happy today.

Betty: Yes I was just thinking about all the things that make me happy...my family, my home and the beautiful things in God's creation.

Friend: Yes that's right Betty, and don't you feel happy that you can run and shout and see and hear?

Betty:... and that we have friends to keep us company? That reminds me of a song:
Singing...

Verse 1: "God is so good, God is so good, God is so good He's so good to me."

Verse 2: "God gives me friends..."

God is Pure

Character development/value: joy

"Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice." Phil 4:4

Art Year 6

God is Love

Pacific Islands

Biblical wall art caption: Matthew 28:19 – “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Painting

Students can create paintings to represent Pacific Islands themes such as flowers or the sea.

Pattern

Students can observe the patterns in traditional Pacific Island art and incorporate pattern design into their art work.

Design a piece of fabric

Looking at traditional fabric patterns, students can then create their own.

