

# Exploration and navigation 2

## Lighthouses and sea voyages

### God is a Powerful Protector

#### Spiritual Awareness: God is our guiding light

The lighthouse is a symbol of safety, in places of potential danger. The Bible doesn't promise that Christians will be free from all trouble. However, God promises to be with us in times of trouble. Jesus is the light, to whom we can look when we are in trouble. Paul's sea voyages provide an example of trust in a great God, through treacherous waters. He was not only protected from drowning at sea, but also from the effects of a poisonous snake bite.

#### Our response to 'God is a Powerful Protector'

- Because God is a Powerful Protector I will...
- trust God
- have faith
- have peace
- not be afraid because He is with me
- give my worries to God
- do what God asks me to do
- believe that God will do as He says
- put on the armour of God to protect me against the enemy

#### Supporting devotional resource

*Themes for Christian Studies Level 6, (Protector): God protects His people in times of trouble.*

#### Biblical references

##### Bible stories and passages

Acts ch 27 & 28 - God protected Paul during the shipwreck. God protects him from drowning and protects him from the effect of the snake bite.

Acts 16:6 God protects Paul and Silas and rescues them from jail.

Matthew 16:18 Protection from snakes and poisons

Luke 8:24 Jesus protected the disciples during the storm.

2 Kings 4:38-41 Protection from the effects of a poisonous plant.

Matthew 7:24-27 The house on the rock was protected from the storm.

Exodus 13:21-22 God guided the Israelites by a cloud by day and provided fire (light) by night

##### Memory verses

Psalm 27:1-14 The Lord is my light...I will not be afraid.

Isaiah 43:1-2 Do not fear for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you; when you walk through the fire you will not be scorched.

Psalm 32:7 You are my hiding place. You will save me from trouble.

Psalm 27:5 In times of trouble He will shelter me; He will keep me safe in His temple and will make me secure on a high rock.

Psalm 56:3 - When you are afraid, trust in the Lord.

John 8:12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world".

## Key Questions

Can you think of any times when you have been in a dangerous situation?

Have there been times when you have worried about something?

What should we do in these situations?

How does a lighthouse protect ships?

How can we be protected from the 'storms of life'?

## Outcomes

Students will

### *Knowledge*

- study the history of lighthouses and beacons, and to explain their role in protecting ships
- study Paul's missionary journeys and see God's hand in protection
- research the history of ships, and trace the journeys of major explorers
- discuss the strong faith of many early explorers and their trust in God for guidance.

### *Skills*

- Sequence historical people and events
- Use historical terms
- Pose a range of questions about the past
- Identify sources
- Locate relevant information from sources provided
- Identify different points of view
- Develop texts, particularly narratives
- Use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies

### *Values*

- appreciate the courage of early navigators
- appreciate that God's hand was upon early sea exploration
- understand how God can use sea voyage today to help those with less
- trust in God for protection
- have faith to do what God wants us to do

## Activities

### a) Ships and sea voyages

- Make a chart showing the development of ships from raft to modern ships.
- Classify ships according to their different functions.
- Retell the story of the Titanic disaster and the discovery of the wreck.
- List the reasons for the disaster and relate this to lack of protection when wise advice is ignored.
- Study the sea voyages of Paul and draw the type of vessel he may have traveled on. Trace his journey on a map.

- Study the history of sea transport. Build model boats and miniature ports of different historical periods.
- Design a board game with a marine theme.
- Study the sea voyages of James Cook, Abel Tasman and William Dampier. Note their dependence upon God. (*Refer to "Discovering Australia's Christian Heritage", by Col Stringer*).

#### **b) Lighthouses**

- Draw diagrams and cross-sections of early lighthouses showing different rooms and levels.
- List the purposes of some of the rooms.
- Discuss the life of an early lighthouse keeper, daily work and difficulties faced. Explain how the keeper and family would receive mail and provisions.
- Write a story or play about the life of a lighthouse keeper.
- Make models of lighthouses in different settings e.g. on a rocky coast/cliff.
- Describe dangers that ships faced on such coastlines.
- Describe use of fog signals and radio signals.
- Draw lightships and aerial beacons.
- Discuss the role of computers in making unmanned lighthouses now possible.
- Mark on a map, lighthouses in your state. Explain reason for their location.

#### **Assessment**

2. What have I learned from the study of ships and sea voyages...
  - a. about God?
  - b. about doing what God wants me to do?
  - c. about the Bible?

#### **Link with Australian Curriculum**

**History Year 4:** a) The journey(s) of AT LEAST ONE world navigator, explorer or trader up to the late eighteenth century, including their contacts with other societies and any impacts. b) Stories of the First Fleet, including reasons for the journey to Australia, and their experiences following arrival.

#### **Learning Connections**

**English:** Read the story, *Saved from the Sea*, by Colin Marsland, (*See Themes for Christian Studies 6, (Protector)*).

**Science:** Research the use of lenses and prisms in magnifying the light strength of lighthouses.

**Thinking skills:** See the *Creative Thinking Skills* section of this website – *"Ships and navigation" (Middle/Upper Primary)*.