

Families 1

God is a Loving Provider

God is a Protector

Spiritual awareness: God cares for families

God is love. He loves my family. He has provided a family to love and care for me.

Living in families is God's plan. Every family is special. God provides for children and protects them, through the family structure. Children feel safe in the care of their parents. A family provides food, shelter and love.

People in families belong to one another. Parents love their children very much, and children love their parents. It is God's plan for family members to show love, respect, loyalty and support for one another. Family members must learn to trust each other, cooperate with each other and forgive each other.

The family structure represents God's care for His children. God loves and cares for us as a father. He protects and provides for us.

Our response to 'God is a Loving Provider'

Because God is a Loving Provider I will...

- Love God
- Love others
- Forgive others
- Be kind and patient with others
- Help others
- Thank God for the things He provides
- Thank my parents for the things they provide
- Share with others the things that God has provided.

Supporting devotional resource

Themes for Christian Studies 1, (Love): God is a loving and faithful shepherd

Themes for Christian Studies 4, (Love): God is a loving Father

Themes for Christian Studies 1, (Peace): God keeps us safe

Biblical references

Bible stories and passages

Luke 15:11-32 A story about a father who forgave his son.

Luke 2:41-52 A visit to the temple. Jesus obeyed His heavenly Father.

John 10- The Good Shepherd; our heavenly Father loves and cares for us.

Matthew 2 Baby Jesus was protected by the flight to Egypt

Exodus 1-2 Protection of baby Moses

Matthew 6:9 This is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven; May your name be honoured....' (The Lord's Prayer)

Psalms 68:5-6 God cares for the orphans and protects widows; He gives the lonely a home to live in.

Memory verses

Isaiah 9:6 He will be called “Wonderful”, “Counselor”, “Mighty God”, “Eternal Father”, “Prince of Peace”.

2 Corinthians 6:8 I will be your Father and you shall be my sons and daughters.

1 John 3:1 See how much the Father has loved us! His love is so great that He has called us His children.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient and kind.

Ephesians 6:1 Children obey your parents in the Lord.

Joshua 24:15 As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.

Key Questions

What is a family?

Why did God choose to place us in families?

How does living in a family help us to get the things we need?

What are some of the problems that family members may have in getting along together?

What should we do when we have family disagreements?

How can family members help each other in times of trouble?

How can you be helpful to your family?

How do parents expect their children to behave?

What does God expect?

Who made the rules for families?

What are some of the rules?

What stories do parents and grandparents tell about the past?

How can stories of the past be told and shared?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- understand that we belong to families
- know that our parents will never stop loving us
- understand the love that God our Heavenly Father has for us
- know that Jesus was placed in a family
- understand who the people in their family are, where they were born and raised and how they are related to each other
- understand that families around the world may have different cultural traditions and different types of housing
- understand that there can be different types of families: large, small, single parent, extended, adopted (as in the case of orphaned children)
- describe the caring and protective roles of parents
- describe the responsibilities of children
- recognize that peace and harmony in families is achieved by living the way God wants us to live
- understand how the stories of families and the past can be communicated, e.g., through photographs, artifacts, books, oral histories, digital media, and museums

Skills

- gather data about family life and housing in different cultures
- compare family life in different cultures
- Use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written, role play) and digital technologies
- interpret pictures of families
- Sequence familiar objects and events
- Distinguish between the past, present and future
- Pose questions about families of the present and past

Values

- develop sensitivity towards others
- appreciate of the family structure
- show positive attitudes towards family members

Activities

- Describe the family life of Jesus as a boy.
- Make a photo collection of your family.
- Draw your family.
- List members of your immediate family. List other members (extended).
- Hold a Grandparents day.
- Invite parents or grandparents to speak about their career or personal experiences.
- Create a timeline of the history of your family, from grandparents through to the youngest family member.
- Draw / discuss the things that are special to your family - house, pets.
- Design a family coat of arms.
- Discuss the ways in which families celebrate special events together.
- Draw or write about a special family outing that you have enjoyed.
- Describe family members. Write about them.
- Describe the things that family members do together.
- Discuss the advantages / disadvantages of being the oldest or youngest family member.
- Discuss different types of families: large, small, single parent.
- Discuss the ways in which missionaries have provided homes for children who have been orphaned (Ps. 68:5).
- Measure and graph heights of family members.
- Make a diagram of your family table, looking from above. Use a symbol for each member.
- Look at family likeness e.g. hair colour, eye colour.
- Make a family tree.
- Discuss the way that God want me to treat my family: *love family members; obey parents; be helpful; express thanks; play peacefully with my brothers / sisters; forgive my family when they do things that upset me.*

Assessment

1. Make a book about your family. Take a page for each family member and draw/write about the things that are special to that family member. Those with small families can include Grandparents.
2. How has learning about families also taught me...
 - about God?
 - about doing what God wants me to do?
 - about the Bible?

Link with Australian Curriculum

History: Foundations level & Year 1 - Personal and family history

Learning Connections

English: Descriptions of home and family

Science: a) Relate to weather and seasons: How does your family prepare for the different seasons? What activities are special to your family in particular seasons? b) Animal families and animal parenting

Art: drawings of family members

Mathematics: the calendar; special dates; birthdays

Thinking Skills: See *Creative Thinking Skills* on this web site – “Families” (Lower Primary).

Additional Beacon Media resources

'The Family' – *Units of Study, Student workbook*

Visual language Unit - *Family*