

# Laws and Customs

**God is Wise**

**God is Protector**

## **Spiritual Awareness**

### **Wisdom in following rules**

There is wisdom in following rules within society. When people work together by obeying rules, communities become safer and more ordered. God has given us rules for Christian living. As we obey these rules we will be happier people and be able to share His love with others.

### **Protection through obedience**

The Bible is our guidebook for life. It contains the rules and laws to be followed for life of safety and security under God's protection. There is a direct relationship between safety and obedience. When we obey God and follow His will for our life, then He promises to shelter us. However when we remove ourselves from His care, and disobey, then we remove ourselves from His protection. This topic is linked with wisdom. There is wisdom and protection in obeying God's laws.

### **Our response to 'God is Wise'**

Because God is Wisdom I will...

- Ask God what is the right thing to do, and do it.
- Listen to people who are wiser than me.
- Listen to my parents and teachers.
- Obey God's word.
- Do what Jesus would do.
- Ask Jesus to be the guide throughout my life.
- Treat God's Creation with wisdom.

### **Our response to 'God is Protector'**

- Because God is my 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 1, (Wise): It is wise to obey God*

*Themes for Christian Studies 7, (Wise): The wisest choice*

## **Biblical references**

### **Bible stories and passages**

Exodus 20:1-17 The Ten Commandments are God's rules for our protection.

The book of Jonah - The consequences of disobedience. Jonah went in the opposite direction to get away from the Lord.

Matthew 7:24-27 The wise man built his house on the rock.

Exodus 17:8-13 Joshua's army overcame the Amalakites as long as Moses held up his hands. Aaron and Hur held up the hands of Moses until sunset.

This is a symbol for us. Pointing upward to God wins the battle.

### **Memory verses**

Colossians 3:20 Children obey your parents.

1 Peter 1:14 Be obedient to God.

Proverbs 3:5-7 Trust in the Lord with all your heart...obey the Lord and refuse to do wrong (GNB)

Deut 11:22 Obey faithfully all the laws I have given you.

Psalms 119:9 How can a young person keep their life pure? By obeying Your commands.

Psalms 119:11 I keep Your law in my heart so that I will not sin against you.

Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

### **Outcomes**

Students will

#### *Knowledge*

- understand that laws are necessary for people to work and live together and that laws operate for our safety
- appreciate that laws and customs exist for our enjoyment of life
- experience games and appreciate that we have fun because of the existence of rules
- study the importance of rules in different social situations: family, schools, community

#### *Skills*

- Compare groups with/without rules.
- Make inferences about the necessity of rules.
- Interpret pictures of situations that may involve observance of rules.

#### *Values*

- understand the importance of God's rules
- understand the relationship between obedience and safety
- show sensitivity to others
- show positive attitudes about working together
- develop a sense of "fair play"

### **Key Questions**

What are our school rules?

What are some rules in the home?

What are some other rules?

Why do we have traffic rules?

How would it be if some obeyed rules and some didn't?

Which rules are absolute, meaning that everyone has to obey them?

Which rules are for children only?

Which rules did Jesus break? Why?  
How do my parents keep me safe?  
What are some of the rules in my family?  
What would happen if I didn't obey these rules?  
How do these rules keep me safe?  
Where do we find God's rules for us?  
What happens when we obey God's rules?  
What happens when we disobey God's rules?

## **Activities**

- Discuss games and compare games played with and without rules.
- Interpret pictures of situations that may involve the observance of rules.
- List rules that operate within the family, school or neighbourhood.
- Dramatise family situations that involve rules, e.g. times for watching TV. and going to bed.
- Make a list of school rules. Discuss consequences of having no rules.
- Make road safety posters.
- Make a chart showing road signs.
- Invite a policeman to speak on road laws for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Discuss laws applicable to: water restrictions, fire bans, fishing, camping, trespassing, littering.
- List the Ten Commandments and explain how they keep us safe.
- Discuss safety in the home. Draw up a list of rules for safety in the home.
- Discuss ways in which parents keep their children safe, and the importance of obeying parents.
- Role play family situations involving rules e.g. pack up toys when finished playing with them.
- Discuss consequences of disobedience.
- Discuss rules for safety at school and in the community.
- Discuss consequences of having no rules.
- Make a list of rules for the playground.
- Make a list of rules for safety on the road / crossing roads.
- Invite a policeman to speak on road laws for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Make a personal safety book.
- Make safety posters.
- Discuss laws applicable to some of these: water restrictions; fire bans, fishing, camping, trespassing, swimming and diving.
- Discuss rules for hygiene and the way in which they protect us, e.g. washing hands.
- Play board games and discuss rules for playing the game; the importance of keeping to the rules when playing in a group.
- Discuss rules for games in sports.

## **Assessment**

1. Make a list or make drawings to show the rules in your home.
2. Make a list or make drawings to show the rules in your school.
3. Explain these rules to the class.

4. While learning about rules, what did I also learn...

- about God?
- about doing what God wants me to do?
- about the Bible?

## **Learning Connections**

**English:** discussions on wise actions

**Mathematics:** Board games that use mathematical skills.

**Art:** safety posters; create a road system for toy cars on a large piece of cardboard and include road signs, pedestrian crossings and traffic lights.

**History:** What would it have been like driving on the roads when cars were first invented? Why did rules have to be invented as well?

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

## **Additional Beacon Media resource**

Visual Language Unit: Sport – See Primary Units of Study on this web site