

My Country

God is a Loving Provider

Spiritual Awareness: God loves all nations

Although the people of Israel have been chosen for the fulfillment of God's eternal plan, His love extends to all nations. The Bible refers to nations other than Israel as gentiles, and His invitation to receive the gift of eternal life extends to all nations. We need to thank God for His gift of salvation, and thank Him for the things He has provided for our nation.

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 5, (Provider): God is a faithful provider

Themes for Christian Studies 5, (Love): God wants us to love others

Bible references

Bible stories and passages

Provision for the Israelites before they entered their land:

Exodus 15:22-27 – Bitter water made sweet

Exodus 16 – Manna and quails

Exodus 17 – Water from a rock

Deuteronomy 8 – The Israelites are now entering into the Promised Land after 40 years in the wilderness. God promises them a fertile land, but they are warned by God not to forget Him and not to forget about obeying the laws He has given.

Psalms 136 – a reminder to the Israelites about the goodness of God in bringing them out of Egypt into a new land

Treating others with love and compassion:

Luke 10:25-38 – The Good Samaritan

Ruth – God took Ruth to a new country where she was treated kindly

Memory verses

Psalms 23:12 – Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord; happy are the people He has chosen for His own. (GNB)

Acts 10:34 – God treats everyone on the same basis

1 Corinthians 13:14 – God is patient and kind

Job 36:27-28 – It is God who takes water from the earth and turns it into drops of rain. He lets the rain pour from the clouds in showers for all mankind.

Key Questions

How has God provided for my country?

How has the Gospel influenced my country?

What are the Christian values of my country?

Which missionaries have influenced the Christian development of my country?

How should we treat newcomers to our country?

How can my country be a blessing to other countries?

How can I pray for my country?

How can I be a missionary in my own country?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- understand who the first inhabitants were, and how we know they were the first inhabitants
- understand how our community has changed over time, what features have been lost and what features have been retained?
- e.g. in relation to the areas of transport, work, education, natural and built environments, entertainment, daily life
- understand the role that people of diverse backgrounds have played in the development and character of the local community
- understand the nature of the contribution made by different groups and individuals in the community
- understand how and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past
- be familiar with celebrations and commemorations of our country and in other places around the world; for example, Bastille Day in France, Independence Day in the USA, Chinese New Year, Christmas Day, Diwali, Easter, Hanukkah, the Moon Festival and Ramadan

Skills

- compare way of life with other nations
- compare lifestyle and culture, past and present
- mapping skills
- sequence historical people and events
- pose a range of questions about the past
- locate relevant information from sources provided
- identify different points of view
- use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies

Values

- appreciate all that God has provided for my country
- appreciate the rich resources that God has provided, along with our major exports
- appreciate the diverse cultural groups within my country

- understand that God loves all people equally, regardless of colour, race or religion

Activities

- Make a list of resources and major exports.
- Mark cities, rivers, mountains and states on a map.
- Draw the national flag.
- Write lyrics of the national anthem.
- Make generalizations about the way of life, and typical lifestyle features.
- List native plants and animals of my country.
- Discuss or write about holidays to different parts of my country.
- Make a list of different nationalities living in our neighbourhood.
- Take a survey to find out where students in the class were born.
- Invite visitors from different ethnic backgrounds.
- Learn a few phrases or words in another language.
- Compare cultural similarities and differences between two groups.
- Experience foods, games, art, music and stories from different cultures.
- Bring costumes from different countries.
- Discuss how newcomers to our country may feel.
- Suggest ways of sharing God's love with others.
- Mapping
- Identify national foods and make a national dish.
- Interpret pictures showing past and present.
- Create projects on flora and fauna
- Make a picture collection of national landmarks.
- Make a travel brochure for a holiday destination within my country.
- Make an oral presentation on the chosen holiday destination.
- Research cultural celebrations of our country and other.
- Research the ways in which Jewish people celebrate the way in which God brought them into their own country.

Assessment

1. On a map of your country, mark in the states, the main cities, rivers, mountains, seas/oceans.
2. Draw a timeline for the history of your country.
3. What have I learned from the study of my country...
 - about God?
 - about doing what God wants me to do?
 - about the Bible?

Link with Australian Curriculum

History Year 3: Community and remembrance

Learning Connections

English: Research and stories form our country's history; biographies of famous people in our country's history.

Science: flora and fauna of our country

Mathematics: Population statistics of people groups within our country;
graphs and pie charts

Art: traditional arts and crafts; arts and crafts of other cultures

Thinking Skills: See *Creative Thinking Skills* on this web site – “My Country”
(Middle/Upper).

Additional Beacon Media Resource:

Visual Language Unit – See *Science, Social Studies Student Activities: Our Neighbours*