

# Times and Seasons

## God is our Redeemer, Life and Peace

### Spiritual Awareness: God is eternal / Lord and King

God is eternal. He has always existed and always will exist. However our world is finite, and is under the sovereign control of God, our creator and redeemer. He has a perfect plan and time-schedule for the World's past, present and future events. These events include the creation, 6000 years ago, the coming of Jesus, 2000 years ago, and the second coming of Jesus, at a time only known by the God the Father.

### Our response to 'God is our Redeemer'

Because God is my redeemer I will...  
Ask Jesus to forgive me for my sin  
Invite Him to live in my life  
Make Jesus Lord of my life  
Live with Him forever  
Thank Him for what He did on the cross  
Thank Him that I am His child  
Tell others that they can have eternal life

### Supporting devotional resource

*Themes for Christian Studies 1, (Patient): Patience is learning to wait*

*Themes for Christian Studies 2, (Powerful): Jesus is Lord and King*

*Themes for Christian Studies 3, (Powerful): God is great, strong and mighty*

### Biblical references

#### Bible stories and passages

Genesis 1 - The creation

Matthew 1:18-24; Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 1:1-21 - The Birth of Jesus

Mark 15:19, Acts 1:6-10 - Just as Jesus ascended into heaven, He will return as King.

Matthew 24 – the signs of the return of Christ

Matthew 25:1-13 – The ten girls and their lamps; (be ready for the return of Christ)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and chapter 5:1-11 – The Lord's coming

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 – the final rebellion and the rise of the anti-Christ

Joshua 10 - The day the sun stood still. (God has control over time).

#### Memory verses

Galatians 4:4 - When the right time finally came, God sent His own Son. He came as the son of a human mother...so we might become God's sons.

Isaiah 9:6 – A child is born to us! A Son is given to us! And He will be our ruler. He will be called “Wonderful”, “Counselor”, “Mighty God”, “Eternal Father”, “Prince of Peace”.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 - There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He has made everything beautiful in His time.

Psalm 104:19 – You created the moon to mark the month; the sun knows the time to set.

## Key Questions

When did Jesus come to earth?

Why did He come?

Was He an ordinary man?

When is He coming again?

Why is He coming again?

What will happen when He comes again?

## Outcomes

Students will

### *Knowledge*

- understand times and seasons in the creation
- understand the purpose of festivals and celebrations
- understand that God is in control of the universe and has a specific plan and time schedule for the world
- understand the reason for the celebration of specific events in the Christian church calendar
- understand that Christ will return as King, but no one knows exactly when

### *Skills*

- draw a timeline of major events in the history of the world, from Creation to present day
- draw a timeline of celebrations throughout the year – Christian, Jewish, other
- observe, record
- devise experiments to measure time
- make predictions
- measure time

### *Values*

- trust in God, knowing that He is in control
- appreciation of cultural celebrations
- accountability; taking responsibility for one's own actions

## Activities

- Discuss and demonstrate using a model, the rotation of the earth every 24 hours, and explain how this causes day and night.
- Discuss the reason for our 7-day week, (the world was created in 7 days).
- Use a model to demonstrate the reason for seasons.
- Make a chart showing each season, and show what happens in each season.
- List suitable clothing and activities for each season.
- Measure weather conditions over the year and compare conditions for each season.
- Research the way in which plants and animals are affected by seasons.

- Observe the phases of the moon and see how these are responsible for months.
- List ways of measuring time.
- Learn how to read a calendar.
- Make a shadow stick or sundial, (see *Themes for Christian Studies 3, Powerful*).
- Experiment with an egg-timer and try making an egg-timer using sand and two plastic bottles taped together around the neck openings.
- Make a variety of egg-timers in the above fashion, with varying sized bottles and neck openings.
- Use the above timing devices to time activities.
- Use a stop-watch to time physical activities, e.g. how many skips in a minute.
- Discuss Christian celebrations, Christmas, Easter, Pentecost
- Discuss Jewish celebrations, e.g. Hanukah, Passover
- Suggest ways of using these celebrations to tell others about Jesus.
- Discuss God's time plan for the world and the second coming of Jesus.

### **Assessment**

1. Make a chart showing major observable seasonal changes in the local environment
2. Choose a celebration and make a poster to show how and why this event is celebrated
3. What have I learned from the study of mini-beasts...
  - about God?
  - about doing what God wants me to do?
  - about the Bible?

### **Link with Australian Curriculum**

**Science Foundation Level:** Earth and Space Sciences

**Science Year 1:** Earth and Space Sciences

### **Learning connections:**

**History:** time lines

**Social Studies:** appropriate clothing for weather conditions

**English:** descriptive writing about seasons; word banks

**Art:** representation of seasonal changes

**Mathematics:** activities to do with time

**Music:** Songs for celebration of festivals