

Touch

God is Truth

Finding out through the sense of touch

Spiritual Awareness: Using the senses to discern the truth

We use our senses to find out about the world around us. We know how something feels by using our sense of touch: rough, smooth, wet, dry. Our sense of touch helps us find out the truth about the world around us.

How can we find out whether an idea is true? God helps us to do that when we ask Him to show us. God has given us the Holy Spirit to show us what is true and what is false. As we listen to God's voice and get to know God's word, we will know what is true. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

Our response to 'God is truth'

Because God is Truth I will...

- Speak the truth
- Be honest
- Never cheat, steal, lie or exaggerate
- Be trustworthy
- Be true to my word and keep promises.
- Ask God to show me the truth.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide me into all truth.
- Believe that God's word is the truth.
- Believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Biblical References

Matthew 7:13-14 The broad and narrow way

Matthew 16:13-17 Jesus asks, "Who am I?"

John 10:1-8 The Good Shepherd. The sheep recognize His voice.

Matthew 7:15-21 Wolves in sheep's clothing

John 14: 6 Jesus said, " I am, the way the truth and the life."

John 16:13 When the Holy Spirit comes He will guide you into all truth.

Acts 17:16-34 The unknown god

Psalms 115:4-7 Those who worship idols: "Their gods are made of silver and gold formed by human hands. They have mouths but cannot speak, and eyes but cannot see. They have ears but cannot hear, and noses but cannot smell. They have hands but cannot feel, and feet but cannot walk."

Key question:

How do we find out about things?

Outcomes: Students will

- explain how our sense of touch helps us to find out about things around us.
- explain how we find out whether ideas in the world around us are true or false
- be able to identify what parts of the body are used for our sense of touch.
- be able to predict some of the things they would be able to feel if they were put in a situation.
- discover objects based only on the sense of touch.

Activities

- Explain that the things that we touch have many different textures: rough, smooth, soft, hard. Explain that we not only use our hands for our sense of touch, but if we have our shoes off, we can also use our feet.
- Show the students a picture of a beach scene, or ask them to imagine it. Ask the students to make a list of the things that they think they would be able to touch and feel if they were in this picture. Encourage the students to share their ideas.
- Put some familiar items inside socks or brown bags, and have the children feel them and guess what they might be. Explain that in this activity they will use their sense of touch to try to find out what is in the socks/bags. Remind students that they are NOT to look in the bags.
- Discuss what items the students thought were in the bags and show them what it really was.
- Explain: “We can feel different sensations on our skin. We can sense touch, pressure and temperature. We have skin all over our body. Our hands are very sensitive to touch.” Make a list of the way things feel using our hands, e.g. hot, cold, rough, smooth.
- Ask: If you were not able to see with your eyes, would your sense of touch be helpful, and why?
- Do you think it’s possible to drop a marble (or a coin) into a paper cup without looking? Try it. Put an item in a paper cup without looking. How were you able to do this?
- Compare your sense of touch with your other senses. Which do you think is the most important and helpful to you? Why? Equally helpful?
- Do you think we could do as well without one or more of our senses? Talk about it and try different tests. Some people are not able to see, or hear, or smell, and scientists have found that those people are able to develop another sense very strongly, to help them understand our world.
- Obtain a Braille alphabet sheet, or simulate one with dots of dried glue. Explain what it is used for, and have the children feel the letters with eyes open and eyes closed.
- Have an outdoor treasure hunt. Ask the children to find something rough, something smooth, something prickly and something wet. Make up your own criteria according to your environment.
- Have the children make their own tactile board. Make available a piece of heavy paper or card, and a variety of items with strong sensory qualities. E.g. sponge, foil, sandpaper, bark chips, coin etc. Have the children glue some items to the board, and then when dry, close eyes and guess what the texture is by feeling it with hands
- Compare sensations by placing an item on an arm, or cheek, or foot. Do you think the sensation is stronger by touching with your hand, or with your cheek etc?
- Do the same thing but have the child close eyes and answer.
- Child closes eyes. You touch a child on arm with finger. Have the child try to touch the exact spot where you touched.

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