

Rules, Laws and Customs: Teacher's topic guide

God is Pure and Holy Year 3

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 Pure and Holy'

Because God is Pure and Holy 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.
- Follow class rules.
- Follow directions.
- Follow community rules.
- Be a responsible citizen

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.

Bible 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.
- Make up a game with rules; play games with 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: Write a set of rules and directions for playing a game, (a procedure)

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: "Rules".

Values education Year 3

God is Pure and Holy

Courtesy and good manners

Courtesy is...

Having good manners

Acting in a way that makes others feel valued and respected

Being polite

Here is an acrostic for POLITE. Make a poster for it.

P = Please say "Please"

O = Obey parents and teachers cheerfully

L = Learn to wait and don't push in.

I = Interrupting is out!

T = Thank you

E = Excuse me

Good or bad manners? Write G for good or B for bad:

1. Speaking rudely to someone
2. Giving an elderly person a seat
3. Saying nothing when someone says "hello" to you
4. Forgetting to say "Excuse me"
5. Saying "Thank you"
6. Coughing without covering your mouth
7. Saying "please"
8. Interrupting a speaker before they can finish their sentence.
9. Keeping your mouth closed when you chew your food.
10. Pushing in.

Art Year 3

God is Pure and Holy

Topic: Rules, laws and customs

Biblical connection: God wants us to obey His rules.

Bible art as a wall display: Moses on Mt. Sanai receiving the Ten Commandments. Students can think about what the mountain would look like...rocky, surrounded by desert, no trees. They can draw Moses in traditional Biblical clothing with the tablets. Include smoke and lightning.

Bible verse for display: 1 Peter 1:14 Be obedient to God.

1. Drawing

Students can make safety posters


2. Construction

Students create a road system for toy cars on a large piece of cardboard and include road signs, pedestrian crossings and traffic lights. Problems solve how to join standing items to the flat cardboard sheet.

3. Painting

In the wall display above students can experiment with paint as they create the rocky texture of the mountain.

Thinking Skills Pure & Holy Yr 3

<p>Rules 1</p> <p>Draw a bicycle.</p> <p>Now change it by doing this:</p> <p>B – make one part bigger</p> <p>A – add something extra</p> <p>R – replace one part with something extra</p>	<p>Rules 2</p> <p>Use your imagination.</p> <p>Work out different things that this picture could be, to do with road safety.</p> 
<p>Rules 3</p> <p>Name 10 road rules that should NEVER be broken.</p>	<p>Rules 4</p> <p>Brainstorm new ways of making roads much safer for bicycles.</p>
<p>Rules 5</p> <p>Children younger than 10 should not be allowed to ride a bike on a public road.</p> <p>Give 3 good points and 3 bad points for this idea.</p>	<p>Rules 6</p> <p>The answer is “accidents”.</p> <p>Give 5 interesting examples.</p>

Bilivucu

Biography



Bilivucu had become a very keen Christian and he wanted everyone else in his village to become Christians.

“You really should follow the Christian way, my friend,” he would say. “My life has changed such a lot since I believed in Jehovah God. I have real peace in my heart now. Won’t you become a Christian, too?”

There was one man in the village who grew tired of Bilivucu constantly talking to him about being a Christian. One day, he got so angry that he grabbed the nearest thing he could find. It happened to be a cooking pot. He smashed it over Bilivucu’s head, sending him home with a very bad headache.

Bilivucu sat in his house wondering what he should do.

“I try to tell this man good news, and all he does is hit me over the head with a cooking pot,” he said to himself. “It wouldn’t be so bad if he hit me with a club. At least that’s a man’s thing. But to hit me with a cooking pot! That’s a woman’s thing. You shouldn’t hit a man with a woman’s thing.”

“I feel like hitting him with my old war club hanging there on the wall,” was his first thought. But then he remembered, “No, I’m a Christian now. I won’t hit back.”

He had hung the war club on the wall when he became a Christian to remind himself of what his life had been before that. Now he was reaching out to take it off the wall and go and hit the man who offended him. But he stopped. There on the floor beneath the club was his Bible. He took that instead.

“Maybe God will tell me what to do through His word,” he thought.

He looked down a page and there his eyes fell on some words in Matthew chapter 5. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of God.”

As Bilivucu thought on those words his anger left him and his heart was filled with joy. Going out to his own kitchen he chose the best cooking pot he could find and went back to the house of the man who hit him.

In the Fijian way he arrived at the door and called out, “I’m coming in!”

The man inside recognised his voice and immediately reached for his club, thinking Bilivucu had come back for revenge. But Bilivucu entered with the new cooking pot, and said to the angry man, "I'm sorry I broke your pot on my head. I've brought you back a new one."

The man was so amazed. "I was sure you had come back to fight me, Bilivucu. Thank you for the new pot. Being a Christian has changed you. It has made you a good man. Please would you teach me more about the Christian way? It must be a good way for me too."

On another occasion a measles epidemic broke out in Bilivucu's village. It had been brought into Fiji by men on trading ships, causing great loss of life to the Fijians.

"Your brother is very ill, Bilivucu, "some men reported to him. "They've begun to dig his grave because they think he will die soon."

Bilivucu was reading his Bible and came upon the passage in James, "Is any sick among you, let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up."

Bilivucu read the scripture and thought of his brother lying near death in his house. Then he took his Bible and a bottle of oil and ran to his brother's house. He found him lying close to the fire and his face was deathly pale.

"You have been offering up pigs to your gods and they haven't healed you. My God will heal you for nothing," Bilivucu said to him. "Would you like me to speak to my God for you?"

The sick man agreed, so Bilivucu rubbed oil all over his body and knelt down beside the man to pray for his healing. Bilivucu hadn't even finished his prayer when the sick man suddenly threw off his covering, sat up and cried, "I am better! Your God has made me well!"

He turned to his wife who was sitting beside him. "Get a new sulu for me to wear. Get one each for yourself and the children. This will be a sign that our family has become Christian today."

Everybody was delighted that he and his household had become Christian that day. He asked Bilivucu to teach them to read the Bible and learn about the Christian way. Bilivucu's changed life and behaviour was such an example to people that God was able to work in many lives. Instead of fighting with one another, people started acting kindly to one another.

Adapted from: *Deep Sea Canoe*, Alan R Tippett, William Carey Library, Pasadena, California