

Medical Profession / Medical Missionaries

Teacher's topic guide: God is a Servant Year 3

Spiritual Awareness: Jesus, the healing servant

God has provided healing for the whole person. We can trust in His great power to heal. God can still heal miraculously today, but sometimes He chooses to use his servants, doctors and nurses, to help cure our ailments.

God has also placed tools for healing within the creation. The human body alone has an ability to heal itself. We see this in the healing of cuts, bruises and broken bones. God has also given us healing plants to aid recovery. Sometimes we can be healed just by eating the right food. Many cultures have a wealth of knowledge on the medicinal properties of plants.

Our response to 'God is a Servant'

Because God is a servant I will...

- follow the example of Jesus, the greatest servant
- be willing to help others
- consider the needs of others
- put others before myself
- not think of myself as being more important than everyone else
- appreciate the work of those who make great sacrifices to help people in need

Biblical references

Bible stories and passages

The healing miracles of Jesus:

John 9:1-34 The man born blind

John 5:1-18 The man at the pool

Luke 8:43-48 The woman who touched the hem of His garment

Luke 5:18-25 A man came through the roof

Luke 6:6-10 Jesus heals a paralyzed hand

Mark 10:46-52 Blind Bartimaeus receives sight

Verses

Luke 4:18- He has chosen me to bring good news to the poor and recovery of sight to the blind.

Luke 6:17-18 They had come to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases.

Matthew 14:14 He was filled with pity for them and healed those who were ill.

Matthew 4:23 Jesus went everywhere in Galilee. He taught in the synagogue and preached the Good News about the kingdom of heaven. And He healed all the people's diseases and sicknesses.

Key Questions

How did Jesus heal people when He was on earth?

Can He still heal people today?

What must we do if we want God to heal us?

How can doctors and nurses help us when we are sick?

How can we help ourselves when we are sick?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- describe the roles of doctors and nurses
- understand the servant role of these workers and their role in healing the sick
- list methods of treatment and aids to healing
- study the role of medical missionaries

Skills

- classify equipment of doctors and nurses
- imagine the day in the life of a doctor or nurse
- interpret pictures of a medical worker at their job

Values

- appreciate the work of the medical profession
- be willing to share experiences and listen to others
- appreciate the work of medical missionaries
- have compassion and a desire to help those who are sick
- pray for those who are sick

Activities

- Describe the role of doctors and nurses in today's society
- Discuss pictures of medical workers at work.
- Compare early or traditional medical practices with today's.
- Invite visitors from the medical profession, or people in the community who have knowledge of traditional medicine
- Read the biographies of Medical Missionaries: Albert Schweitzer, Florence Nightingale, Mother Teresa, Mercy Ships and Samaritan's Purse.
- Classify, identify and draw equipment used by doctors and nurses.
- Make a book describing the day in the life of a medical worker.
- Discuss medical procedures for e.g. broken bones, surgery
- Examine the school First-Aid kit and draw the contents
- Discuss dangers of swallowing nonprescribed pills or medicines, and the need to keep these out of reach of young children.
- Invite a representative from the ambulance service.
- Discuss aids to healing such as rest, healthy food.

Assessment

1. Make a chart to show the different jobs performed by a medical worker.
2. What have I learned from the study of medical workers...
 - about God?
 - about doing what God wants me to do?
 - about the Bible?

Learning Connections

English: Make a chart showing the days of the week and for each day, write some ways in which you will serve others.

Art: Drawing or painting a medical worker in their uniform; making gifts for those who need our special help.

Thinking Skills: *"The Medical Profession"*

Biographies: Albert Schweitzer, Florence Nightingale, Mother Teresa, Mercy Ships and Samaritan's Purse.

Year 3 Values education

God is a Servant

Service

Service is ...

- looking for ways to help others
- being willing to do jobs cheerfully

Activities

1. What services do your parents provide for you? Make a poster called “My Mum” or “My Dad”. On the poster draw pictures and write sentences about what they do, e.g. “My Mum cooks me meals.”
2. Think about how you can provide a service for someone. Make a card for that person. On the card write:

Dear
I would like to give you some of my time this week. I will help you by for hours, signed

What does the Bible say about serving others?

1 Peter 4:10 Use your gift to serve others.

Matthew 20:28 Jesus came not to be served, but to serve others.

Galatians 6:9 Let us not grow tired of doing good.

Art Year 3

God is a Servant

Topic: Medical servants

Biblical connection: Doctors and nurses help us set an example of serving. Some doctors and nurses work as missionaries, helping people who have no doctors in their communities.

Bible art as a wall display: Make a scene using collage, showing the many people that Jesus healed. Cut out small pieces of fabric for clothing and use these as a basis for making a crowd of people. (Jesus healed many people, Mark 1:34)




Drawing or painting

Draw or paint a medical worker in their uniform.

Any medium

Use art materials to make gifts for those who need our special help.

Thinking Skills Servant Yr 3

<p>Medical profession 1</p> <p>What if there were no doctors or nurses?</p> <p>Write down 10 possible consequences.</p>	<p>Medical profession 2</p> <p>What are 5 improvements you could make to a hospital bed to make patients more comfortable?</p>
<p>Medical profession 3</p> <p>The answer is: “a nurse”</p> <p>Make up 5 questions.</p>	<p>Medical profession 4</p> <p>Design a new device to help disabled people walk.</p>
<p>Medical profession 5</p> <p>Give 10 completely different uses for a stethoscope</p>	<p>Medical profession 6</p> <p>Use your imagination. Work out 5 different things that this picture could be. It must have something to do with the medical profession.</p> 

Albert Schweitzer

Biography

Albert Schweitzer was born in 1875 and died in 1965. He was a lived in a French speaking part of Germany, close to the border of France and Germany, called Alsace. He was a Christian doctor who worked as a medical missionary in Africa. He worked in the Gabon Republic which is a French speaking colony on the west coast of Northern Africa.

Albert was the son of a minister. As a young man Albert studied the Bible and was a very good speaker. His father hoped that Albert would become a church minister like himself. But Albert gave up his study at Bible College to study medicine. He said that he wanted to help people by working with his hands.

In 1913 Albert left for Africa with his wife. In the first 9 months of his work, Albert had about 2,000 patients to examine, some travelling many days and hundreds of kilometers to reach him. In addition to injuries, he was often treating severe sandflea bites, tropical sores, heart disease, tropical dysentery, tropical malaria, sleeping sickness, leprosy, fevers and tumours. He also tried to stop witchdoctors from deliberately poisoning people.

Schweitzer's wife, Helene, performed anaesthetics for surgical operations. At first, they used a shed for a surgery. It had previously been used as a chicken hut. In autumn 1913 they built their first hospital of corrugated iron, with two small rooms (a consulting room and an operating theatre) and a veranda where they sterilised equipment. The waiting room and dormitory were built of logs, like the local African huts. The Schweitzers lived in their own hut. They employed a local African, Joseph, as an assistant. Joseph had come to them at first as a patient.

Albert worked in Africa as a medical missionary for four years. He and Helene often suffered the tropical diseases that affected his patients. In 1918 Albert and Helene returned home for recovery, and it was then that their daughter, Rhena, was born.

By 1920 Albert's health was recovering. He could not stop thinking about his mission in Africa. Being a very good musician, he gave organ recitals to raise money so that he could return to the Gabon Republic.

In 1924, he returned to Africa without Helene and Rhena. Helene was not well enough to continue the harsh life in Africa. An assistant, Noel Gillespie, went with Albert this time. When they arrived, they found that his hospital building needed much repair. They set to work with building and treating people at the same time.

Albert brought with him this time new medicines for treating diseases. A German nurse and doctor joined him in 1924, and another doctor in 1925. More helpers came after that. The growing hospital was supervised by African assistants. Joseph also returned to help. In 1925-6, new hospital buildings were built, and also a ward for white patients, so that the site became like a village.

Much of the building work was carried out with the help of local people and patients. With the new hospital built and the medical team established, Schweitzer returned to Europe in 1927. His last period of work in Africa was from 1929 to 1932.

1. Find Alsace on a map. Where is it?
2. Find the Gabon Republic on a map. Where is it?
3. Why did Albert give up his Bible training?
4. What were some of the medical conditions he treated?
5. How did his wife Helene assist Albert in the medical field?
6. What were some of the difficulties Albert and Helene faced in Africa?
7. Why did they go back to Switzerland?
8. How did Albert raise money to go back to Gabon?
9. What were some of the things achieved on this second trip?
10. How long did he go for on his third and last trip?
11. What do you think would be the hardest thing for Albert?

Florence Nightingale

Biography

People who show kindness and care towards the sick are really being God's servants. Here is a true story of a nurse who lived over 150 years ago. She felt God speaking to her heart about being His servant. Her name was Florence Nightingale.

Florence came from a very rich family. Her family loved dances, plays and parties, but Florence preferred the beauty of nature to all these things.

When she was only eleven years old she was very good at caring for small babies. When she grew up, she wanted more than anything else, to help people. In her diary, she wrote, 'On February 7th 1837 God called me to His service'. She was then seventeen.

When she was twenty four years old she decided to become a nurse. This was a very hard decision to make because her family didn't want her to be a nurse. Nurses had to work very hard. They not only bandaged wounds and gave medicine, but they also had to make beds and do lots of cleaning. Florence's parents thought that it wasn't good for rich people to do such jobs.

Not long after Florence started nursing, a war broke out. The British and French together fought a war with Russia. Many people lay wounded and dying in the battle field. There were no bandages, no splints and no anaesthetics. There was lots of disease too.

When Florence read about the wounded people in the 'London Times', she organised small groups of nurses to go to Russia. Florence went too.

When the nurses arrived in Russia they found terrible conditions. There was hardly any water, and hardly any medical equipment. They had to use small tin basins for everything... for eating, drinking and washing.

At first the doctors didn't want the nurses to help, but finally they agreed. Florence turned a building into a hospital. "Clean, clean, clean," Florence told the nurses, because everything was so dirty.

The queen found out about Florence's work and sent her a special message to encourage her.

Every night, just before Florence went to bed she made a trip to visit the patients. With her lamp in her hand she walked up and down the long rows of beds. Her patients called her 'the lady of the lamp'.

Florence always tried to make sure that the patients were as comfortable as possible, washed and well fed. When the war was over she was given a special medal for bravery.

Activities – Florence Nightingale

1. What kind of family was Florence from?
2. How was Florence different from the rest of her family?
3. What did she like to do when she was 11?
4. What did she write in her diary when she was 17?
5. Why didn't Florence's parents want her to become a nurse?
6. What was it like in Russia, when the nurses first arrived?
7. What did Florence do to improve the conditions?
8. Why is she called the lady with the lamp?
9. How can we tell from the second story that Florence really cared about the people she helped?
10. What do you call a person who is always willing to help others? Fill in the missing letters: s _ r _ a _ t

Mother Teresa

Biography

Mother Teresa was born in 1910 in the country that is now called Macedonia. Her parents named her Agnes. Agnes grew up in the Roman Catholic Church and decided to devote her life to God at an early age. When she turned 18, Agnes joined the Sisters of Loreto to become a missionary to India. First, she had to learn English, and then began her journey to India. After more training with the church she took her vows as a nun and chose the name Teresa. In 1929 she arrived in Calcutta, the capital of Bengal, India to teach at a school for girls. She taught for many years at the school, but living in Calcutta, she felt deeply sad to see so many sick and dying people on the city's streets.

She wrote in her diary: "I realized that I had the call to take care of the sick and the dying, the hungry, the naked, the homeless – to be God's Love in action to the poorest of the poor."

She received some basic medical training and then set out to help the sick and needy. This wasn't an easy task in 1948 India. She had very little support and, while trying to feed and help the poorest of the poor, she herself was constantly hungry and even had to beg for food.

In 1950, Mother Teresa formed a group within the Catholic Church called the Missionaries of Charity. The purpose of the Mission was to take care of "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone".

Mother Teresa's work became internationally known. In 1982 she travelled to the Muslim area of Beirut to help children of both Christian and Muslim faiths. Mother Teresa received the Jewel of India award which is the highest honour that an Indian civilian can receive. She also received the Soviet Union's Gold Medal of the Soviet Peace Committee and in 1979 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her work "in bringing help to suffering humanity."

When she first started the Missionaries of Charity there were only 13 members. Today, the group has over 4,000 members who care for people all over the world. It wasn't an easy task to build such an

organization and to keep the focus on the poorest people. She worked almost up until her death on September 5, 1997.

1. What was the name that Mother Teresa's parents gave her?
2. How old was she when she decided to become a missionary?
3. What was her first job in India?
4. Why did she take medical training?
5. Make a list of all the people she helped.
6. How old was she when she died?

Samaritan's Purse

World Medical Mission

Samaritan's Purse is a mission that provides help where people around the world are suffering.

The organization gives help when natural disasters occur, such as earthquakes and Tsunamis. Christian workers assist people in places where there is drought and famine. They also organize Christmas gifts to be sent to children in poor communities, who would normally have no Christmas gifts at all. Samaritan's Purse also provides medical assistance. This branch of Samaritan's Purse is called World Medical Missions.

What does a medical missionary do?

Christian doctors, dentists, and other medical staff give their time working in mission hospitals and medical centres around the world.

Cleft lip repair

In some countries, children born with cleft lips are often bullied, prevented from going to school, and made to feel worthless. Samaritan's Purse sends volunteer medical teams to perform cleft lip and palate surgeries for patients of all ages, while at the same time, sharing the Good News of Christ.

Diseases Prevention

Samaritan's Purse fights diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, and other diseases by giving medical care and teaching people about hygiene.

Mothers and babies

Samaritan's Purse supplies, medicine, vitamins, and trains workers to help pregnant women and mothers of newborn babies in remote villages and poor communities. They help save the lives of women and babies.

Supply of Medical Equipment & Medicines

Samaritan's Purse supplies surgical equipment, X-ray systems, patient monitors, stethoscopes and other items to parts of the world where quality medical provisions are in short supply.

1. What does a medical missionary do?
2. How do they help save lives?

Mercy Ships - A Medical Mission

Mercy Ships is an organization that provides medical treatment to needy people around the world. In many countries, sick people cannot afford treatment and governments do not provide free health care, so many of the poor are left sick and dying, with no medical help.

Mercy Ships works in needy countries, mainly in Africa. Mercy Ships was started in 1978 by Don Stephens and his wife Deyon, a nurse. People give their time to work on the ships, unpaid.

The Africa Mercy

A ship called *The Africa Mercy* travels around the ports of Africa giving medical help. It provides free surgeries, medical and dental work. The team of helpers on the ship also teach people how to prevent disease.

Before the Africa Mercy arrives in port, a team of workers goes into the community and do medical check-ups to see which men, women and children need surgery. Sometimes people walk for days, and even walk from neighboring countries.

Medical staff on the Africa Mercy treat a wide range of problems, including cleft lip and palate, eye problems, bowed legs, burns and burn scars and dental problems. Some patients have tumours (growths) on their faces or bodies. These are removed by surgery. Many of these conditions are very severe because patients have not had any medical treatment before.

The lower deck of the Africa Mercy is equipped with five operating theatres and 82 hospital beds for patients. They also have machines that can detect cancer, an X-ray machine and a medical laboratory.

On the upper decks of the Africa Mercy, the ship has 126 cabins for a crew of 400 people, including families, couples and individual people. As well as providing free medical and dental care, Mercy Ships also sets up medical centres on land, so that medical care can be continued when the ship departs.

1. *How do Mercy ships help people?*
2. *What are some of the medical problem people get help for?*
3. *Draw the ship showing the two decks. Show what is on each deck.*

Doctors and nurses

God is a Servant

A book to make

A doctor helps people who are sick or injured. Men and women can be doctors.

When you are sick it is best to rest in bed. Your body will get better when you do this.

Sometimes you need
medicine to help you get
better. A doctor knows if
you need medicine.

The doctor will listen to you
breathe with a stethoscope.

The doctor will take your temperature to see if you have a fever.

The doctor will look at the back of your throat with a special stick.

Sometimes people get injured. You can get injured if you fall over when you are running about. You may hurt your arm or leg.

The best thing to do is to keep the injured part very still. If it keeps on hurting, then a doctor can tell if your arm or leg is broken. The doctor will take an x-ray.

If your arm or leg is broken the doctor will put it in plaster to keep it very still. It will stay in plaster for a long time. Then it will get better.

God made our bodies to get better. He made us to get better when we are sick. He made our bones to grow together again when they are broken.

A nurse helps a doctor.
Men and women can be
nurses.

People who are very sick go to hospital. Doctors and nurses look after people in hospital.

A nurse can take someone's temperature, give medicine and give injections. A nurse can put bandages on bad cuts or burns.

Doctors and nurses help
Mums who have new
babies.

Doctors and nurses work very hard. They even work at night. They take good care of people who are sick or injured. They are good servants.

Words to learn:

doctor

nurse

injured

medicine

breathe

stethoscope

temperature

fever

x-ray

plaster

hospital

bandage

injection

Picture Collection

