Pioneer Federation Medium term plan Cycle 1, Term 2 R.E



Subject: RE

Key Concept/ Theme: 1.1 What do Christians believe God is like?

Prior Learning links:

F1 Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?

F6 What times/stories are special and why?

Vocabulary: parable, bible, God, Christian, prayer, forgiveness

1. **Reconnection:** What is your favourite book? Have example of bible in class. What do the children already know about the bible?

LO: Can I retell the story of the Lost Son?

Introduce idea that Christians believe in God; the Bible is the key way of finding out what they think God is like.

Tell the story of the Lost Son (Luke 15:1–2, 11–32) using interactive and reflective story-telling techniques.

Draw out the forgiveness and love shown by the father.

Explain that the story is a 'parable' – a special story Jesus told to help people understand ideas. Parables might be harder to understand than some other stories as they have can have hidden meanings.

Reflection Question: What is a parable?

2. **Reconnection:** Can we retell the story of the Lost Son? What is a parable?

LO: what does the Story of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin tell Christians about God?

Remind children about the story of the Lost Son from previous lesson. What does the story say about what Christians believe about God? Brainstorm and record ideas as a whole class.

Discuss: How might God be like the father?

Look at the stories of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin in Luke 15 as more examples.

Add any more ideas to the whole class brainstorm about what Christians believe about God.

Reflection Question: What do the stories mean to Christians?

3 **Reconnection:** What stories can you remember hearing which tell us more about God?

LO: How does God show love in the parable of the Lost Son?

The Parable of the Lost Son teaches that God loves people, even when they go off on their own way.

As a class think of ways that Christians might show how glad they are that God loves them so much e.g. sing praising songs, pray saying why they love God, read about God in the Bible, love people, forgive people, care for people, go to church, pray and talk to God, pray and ask God to help, be generous.

Explore some examples of these, e.g. by talking to some Christians, matching pictures.

Christians often understand the Parable of Lost Son as teaching them that God is loving and forgiving, and will forgive them too, and so forgiving and being forgiven is also important – they should also practise forgiveness.

Reflection Question: When have you forgiven someone?

4 **Reconnection:** Talk about whether forgiving people is only important for Christians or for other people too.

LO: How does God show forgiveness?

Talk about what happens in school if they do something wrong. Share any fresh start/new day practices you might have and the importance of forgiving pupils in school.

Talk about other times when forgiveness is given (through role play, if appropriate): At home? At out of school clubs? How do parents forgive? Link this last question to God as a forgiving father in the Lost Son.

Refer to the question 'What do Christians believe God is like?' – how fully can pupils answer this, focusing on understanding of the parable's meaning? What happens when forgiveness is not given? Get pupils to practise saying 'I'm very sorry' and 'That's ok – I forgive you' to each other around the class. Talk together: Is it good to forgive people? Why/why not? How does it feel if you don't forgive? Why is it sometimes hard to forgive?

Listen to 'You Can Hold On' by Fischy Music (there is a free extract on www.fischy.com). Discuss the messages in the song. Write an extra verse to the song or even a class poem focusing on what it is like to forgive or not forgive.

Reflection Question: Is it good to forgive people? Why/why not?

5 **Reconnection:** Can you think of a way in which Christians show their belief in God as loving and forgiving?

LO: What do I understand about types of prayers?

Explain that Christians often talk about there being four main types of prayer: praise, saying 'sorry', saying 'thank you' and asking for something. The story of the Lost Son might lead Christians to think it is very important to say 'praise' and 'saying "sorry" prayers.

Look through the Lost Son and see if they can see what types of prayers the characters might say at different parts of the story and write some examples of characters' prayers. Compare with some Christian prayers from today (e.g. The Lord's Prayer, some examples online from Christian websites, e.g. www.prayerscapes.com/prayers/prayers.html).

Reflection Question: What prayers do you know? Think about prayers said at church and at school.

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6 End of unit quiz returning to the big overarching question:

Refer back to the core question: What do Christians believe God is like? The story teaches that, like the father in the story, God is loving and forgiving. Talk to a Christian about how this makes a difference to how they live.

Reflection question: 1.1 What do Christians believe God is like?

End Points:

Make sense of belief:

- Identify what a parable is
- Tell the story of the Lost Son from the Bible simply and recognise a link with the Christian idea of God as a forgiving Father
- Give clear, simple accounts of what the story means to Christians

Understand the impact:

- Give at least two examples of a way in which Christians show their belief in God as loving and forgiving (e.g. by saying sorry, by seeing God as welcoming them back; by forgiving others)
- Give an example of how Christians put their beliefs into practice in worship (e.g. by saying sorry to God)

Make connections:

- Think, talk and ask questions about whether they can learn anything from the story for themselves, exploring different ideas
- Give a reason for the ideas they have and the connections they make

Evaluation: What have the pupil self-reflections and termly work told you about what the children can remember and recall? What are the gaps? Ensure that the areas that need further reinforcement are documented in the next subject unit MTP.