

Sunday morning
teaching plan

Date:
16/11/25

TITLE:	The Bible
THEME:	Christian Foundations
AIM:	To understand the credibility of the Bible and appreciate its value in a Christian life.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Bible is the foundational book of the Christian faith. Without it we wouldn't have the testimonies of Jesus, the instructions of life, the reassurance of life to come, the understanding of God's love and much more. But we need to be sure that we trust it and then we need to let it fill our lives with its truths.

WARM UP

Activity: Name that book

In groups they have 1 minute to write as many books of the Bible as they can think of.

Teaching Point: Intro for the session to get them thinking about the Bible and what they know and which books they have read and which they haven't.

MAIN TEACHING

Activity: The love story

<https://youtu.be/dv8dHsxjLd8>

Activity: Lost in translation.

Play Chinese whispers/telephone.

Play back drawing, where one person draws on paper resting on one person's back who then draws on paper resting another person's back who then draws on paper on the wall. And also the same but just copying down what the person next to them has copied from the person next to them.

Some people might think that whispering stories is how the Bible has been formed and therefore it isn't very reliable.

There are two main reasons that we can trust the version of the Bible we have today.

Firstly, when people copied the scriptures it was an extremely serious affair – the process of copying was extremely meticulous.

Secondly, in the 20th century, earlier manuscripts were discovered that were written closer to the events in the Old Testament. When checked against existing manuscripts, they were shown to be almost exactly the same. The footnotes in our Bible show us where there are discrepancies, but these discrepancies never alter the overall meaning of the text.

Teaching Point: To look into whether we can trust the accuracy of the text of our Bibles. The Bible is reliable, it was put together with many people's extreme precision and has been proven to be accurate when compared to other none religious manuscripts.

Activity: Do's and Don'ts

Question: What are life's big questions? Examples might include:

- What's the purpose of life?
- What really matters in life?
- Where did I come from?
- Is there life after death?
- What's after death?
- How do I get to heaven?
- Is there a God?
- How can I be a better person?
- How can I please God?
- Does God really care about me?
- Can I make a difference in the world?

Follow on question:

- Where do people go for help in answering some of those big questions?
- Are those places helpful or harmful? Why? Can we trust them?

The Bible gives us advice and answers to the big issues in life. Christians know that they can trust the Bible because they can trust God.

The Point: Many people think the Bible is just a set of do's and don'ts. In part, they're right as God has given us guidelines and rules to live by. But the Bible also helps to answer some of life's big questions. Most importantly, the Bible tells us how to get to know God through Jesus Christ, and what we need to do to have a personal relationship with him.

Activity: More than food

Hand out bread rolls to everyone.

Question:

- Why do we eat every day?

Matthew 4:4

Question:

- What do you think Jesus meant by those words?
- Why do you think the Bible is so important?

Teaching Point: Not only do we need physical food, we need spiritual food regularly. Just as we eat food every day to stay alive and to grow and be healthy, if we read the Bible often, and ideally every day, we can be fit spiritually and really get to know God. The word of God helps us to live! The Bible is the primary way God has spoken to humans. From Genesis to Revelation, God is a God who speaks and who wants to communicate to us. If we want to learn more about God, and learn what pleases him, then we need to read the Bible and put what it says into practice.

TAKEAWAY

Activity: Resources

Have Bible resources available to give out. If time look at them and at an app.

EXTRA INFORMATION