



R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

LESSON TITLE: Sacred Texts: Christianity - the Bible, Psalm 23	LEARNING STAGE LKS2	WST TEACHER/DATE Mrs Johanna Jordan/ Mrs Tricia Bastable/ Mrs Fiona Penny
AIM: To know that and consider why Psalm 23 from the Bible is a key source of wisdom for Christians. LEARNING OBJECTIVE: To explore how Psalm 23 from the Bible can help Christians in their daily lives	MAIN AREA/S OF LEARNING (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22) Sources of wisdom Other AOL covered: Beliefs and practices Prayer, worship and reflection	LESSON RESOURCES WST will bring: Children's NIV Bible (1) Beginners' Bibles (16/set) Powerpoint presentation Pupil worksheet - outline of open Bible www.max7.org/en/resource/DavidandGoliathQuicksketch School to provide: Colouring pens/pencils

Introduction:

Start with a quiz about some facts of the Bible. Encourage the children to guess some of the answers if they don't know them. Briefly discuss the answers. Re-cap what's in the Bible: different books (66) written over a long period of time by more than 40 different authors. The books are divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. Although the Bible was written about 2000 years ago, it is still very relevant today. Many people, Christians in particular, find hope and encouragement from it. Today we're going to look at a poem/song from the OT and how it can be relevant and helpful to Christians today.

Main content:

One of the books in the Bible is called the book of Psalms. A Psalm is a religious song or prayer. Many Psalms were written by a man called David. We know a lot about David, because his life story is told in the Bible. David was a friend of God all through his life. He grew up being a shepherd, but became a soldier and king. He was also a musician and poet.

Give out the Beginners Bibles (one between two). Spend a couple of minutes looking at the Bibles independently.
Find and read Psalm 23 (Beginner's Bible page 190-193).

Read Psalm 23 together. Listen to what David had to say about God.

- ☐ P. 190 Who does David compare God to? A shepherd.

In pairs, write down 3 things a shepherd does for his sheep. Discuss answers. How does this compare to what God does for his people according to David? David was a shepherd, so he knew a lot about sheep and shepherds. What are sheep like? Dependent for food, care, guidance & safety. God looks after people, like a shepherd looks after sheep.

Key 'wisdom' point: God provides (i.e. food and water, rest and renewed strength)

- ☐ P. 191 God is always with us

Key 'wisdom' point: God shows the way to live a life that is good and pleases Him.

Key 'wisdom' point: God gives us courage and strength to face life's difficulties with Him.

Can you think of what the dark valley might look like in someone's life?

- P. 192 Key 'wisdom' point: God gives us all we need and much more

Key 'wisdom' point: God has chosen us (ref. Monarch's anointing)

Show pictures of David being anointed as king and explain the custom. King Charles was anointed with oil during his Coronation.

What are some of the good things in your life? Write some on the cup on the WS.

- P.193 Key 'wisdom' point: God is with us throughout our whole lives

Key 'wisdom' point: God assures us of life in heaven after death

Show a video clip of the battle of David and Goliath. www.max7.org/en/resource/DavidandGoliathQuicksketch

David fought Goliath before he wrote the Psalm.

Discuss with talking partners:

How did his faith help David to fight Goliath? Which parts of the Psalm would David have had in mind before and during the fight?

Independent Activity:

Use the Bible outline to illustrate one (or more) of the phrases of wisdom (knowledge of God) highlighted by David in Psalm 23. Play a version of Psalm 23 for the children to listen to as they work.

Plenary

Discuss: How do you think reading/hearing/singing Psalm 23 might help Christians when they are facing life's challenges and problems?

Summarise: Christians will read their bibles regularly to connect with God and to help them follow God through all of life's up's and down's.

Christians believe that the bible is the greatest book ever because it tells us of God's love for us.

Extension/enrichment activities

Find Psalm 23 in the Children's NIV or any other version of the Bible. How is the wording different?

Research and listen to different musical versions of Psalm 23 (you could try 'googling' Scottish Psalter, Crimond, Stuart Townend)

Deeper questions

Possible follow up/class discussion suggestions

Why do you think Psalm 23 might affect Christians in different ways? How might Christians think it could help them to be 'better' people?