

RE - What do Christians believe God is like?



Learning Outcomes:

BY THE END OF THIS UNIT, PUPILS ARE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO:

- Identify what a parable is.
- Tell the story of the Lost Son from the Bible simply, and recognise a link with the concept of God as a forgiving Father.
- Give clear, simple accounts of what the story means to Christians.
- Give at least two examples of a way in which Christians show their belief in God as loving and forgiving; for example, 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; by saying sorry to God, for example.
- Think, talk and ask questions about whether they can learn anything from the story for themselves, exploring different ideas.

PUPILS WILL KNOW THAT:

- Christians believe in God, and that they find out about God in the Bible.
- Christians believe God is loving, kind, fair and forgiving, and also Lord and King.
- Some stories show these Christian beliefs.
- Christians worship God and try to live in ways that please him.

Learning Journey:

- **What is the parable of The Lost Son?**
 - Children use artwork of The Lost Son to discuss initial ideas about the story, including the pictures, colours and mood conveyed.
 - Children ask 'I wonder' questions about the story.
- **What do I understand about the story of The Lost Son?**
 - Children discuss their feelings towards the story. They explore the different feelings of the father and son and think about what this might teach Christians about God.
- **What is a Parable? What is the hidden meaning behind the story of The Lost Son?**
 - Children think about the story and the hidden meaning.
- **How do people show love and forgiveness?**
 - Children think about how, for Christians this parable teaches that God is loving and forgiving, like a parent. They consider how parents show love and forgiveness to their children and how they show forgiveness to others.
- **How do Christians show their love to God?**
 - The parable of the Lost Son teaches that God is loving like a parent so Christians want to show that they love God. Children think of some of the ways that Christians might do this.
- **How do Christians show that they believe God is loving and forgiving?**
 - Children consider what happens if they do something wrong at school. How do they show forgiveness?
- **What different types of prayers do Christians say to God?**
 - Children explore the four main types of Christian prayers. These are praise, saying sorry, saying thank you and asking for something.

Wider Curriculum:

A visit to the local church to encourage children to look for clues about what Christians think God is like.

Key Vocabulary

Spelling	Definition / Sentence
Christian	A person who follows and supports the teaching of Jesus.
Bible	Christians holy book.
God	A supreme being.
Parable	A short story which teaches a moral or religious lesson.
Moral	A lesson about right or wrong learnt from a story or event.
Forgive	To decide to not be angry or upset with someone who has harmed you.
Pray	To interact and talk to God.
Church	A sacred place where Christian attend to worship, pray and get closer to God.
Worship	To respect and honour an important person.