



MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

The Ten Commandments

Second Level - Session 3



Session 3 – War – Right or Wrong?

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>Through investigating and reflecting upon biblical and other Christian stories, I can show my understanding of these stories.</p> <p>RME 2-01a</p> <p>Through exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, I am increasing my knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs.</p> <p>RME 2-01b</p> <p>I can show understanding of Christian beliefs and explore the similarities and differences between these and my developing beliefs.</p> <p>RME 2-01c</p> <p>Through investigating and reflecting upon the lives of Jesus and key Christian figures, and drawing upon moral values as expressed in Christianity, I am beginning to understand how these have influenced Christian morality.</p> <p>RME 2-02a</p> <p>I can share my developing views about values such as fairness and equality and love, caring, sharing and human rights.</p> <p>RME 2-02b</p> <p>I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values.</p> <p>RME 2-07a</p> <p>I can explain why different people think that values such as honesty, respect and compassion are important, and I show respect for others.</p> <p>RME 2-09c</p>	<p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion with at least one reason on at least one belief from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own beliefs can affect actions.</p> <p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own values can affect actions.</p> <p>Discusses and expresses views about the importance of values such as honesty, respect and compassion.</p>

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>I am developing my understanding of how my own and other people's beliefs and values affect their actions.</p> <p>RME 2-09d</p>	



Suggested Learning Intentions

- Children will consider why conflicts occur and if it is right or wrong to go to war.
- Children will consider how the values found in the account of the 10 Commandments influence Christian morality and affects their views on world events.
- Children will have the opportunity to consider if Christian values found in the account of the 10 Commandments are important to them whatever their faith or belief.



Suggested Success Criteria

- I can take part in a discussion, sharing my developing views and listening to others, about when it is right and when it is wrong to go to war.
- I can use my knowledge of the account of the 10 Commandments to explain how Christian values could affect their actions.
- I can share my developing views of the place of rules in our world and by actively listening and responding with interest show respect when others share their views.



Resources Required for this Session

Red and white coloured paper squares – enough for one of each colour to the pupils.

For or Against, Bible verses (see additional resources)



Notes

- Please remember that it is the intention that this learning is extended into other curricular areas as described in the introductory document.
- Suggested amounts of time per activity have been included. This is a guideline.



Activity

1. Explain that we are going to consider if war is right or wrong. What do we think? What do Christians think? I wonder what you think now – hands up if you think it is right we go to war, hands up if you think it's wrong. **5 minutes**
2. Right or wrong? Read out these statements and ask if they agree or disagree? Discuss round their answers.
 - If someone has something that you want and you don't have, do you think you should start a fight with that person?
 - When someone is bullying your friend, do you think it is ok to fight with the bully?
 - When you are being bullied, do you think you should fight back?
 - Do you think you should fight with someone, in order to gain others respect?
 - Do you think you should fight with someone who is threatening you?**10-15 minutes**
3. Now relate the above statements to nations and repeat the activity. If another country has something your country wants should you start a war? Does this make the question of going to war right or wrong, easier or harder? **10 minutes**
4. For or against? Bible Verses
 Do you think Christians would be for or against war? Give each pupil a red and white piece of card and ask them to use these as flags. Read out the different Bible verses from 'For or Against. Bible Verses' resource in the additional resources. Each verse offers key principles to be considered on the question of whether or not war is supported in the Bible. Ask the pupils to indicate whether they believe the passage supports the argument for war (red flag), disagrees with the argument for war (white flag), or could be seen equally for and against the argument for war (both flags).

 Discuss together 'did these Bible Verses help us decide whether Christians are for or against war?

 It's complicated isn't it! Reassure the children they don't need to know the answers and that it's good they've been able to think it through and discuss other points of view. Imagine how it must feel if they were Prime Minister and having to make these decisions! **10 minutes**