



MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

The Ten Commandments

Second Level - Session 1



Session 1 – Hear and Explore the Story

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 hear and read for themselves the Biblical account of God giving the Ten Commandments.
- Children will discover more about Christian belief by describing the character of God in the account.
- Children will have the opportunity to explore the Biblical account of God giving the Ten Commandments and ask questions about the events and values found in the account.



Suggested Success Criteria

- I can show I have listened carefully by answering questions.
- I can identify differences and similarities when hearing or reading the same story in different texts.
- I can demonstrate my understanding by giving appropriate descriptions of God.
- I can demonstrate my understanding by asking appropriate and thoughtful questions.



Resources Required for this Session

Selection of children's bibles and/or copies of the bible text. (see additional resources)

The PowerPoint 'Moses and the Israelites in Egypt' to help recap the story of the Israelites and the exodus from Egypt. (downloadable at bibleworld.co.uk/resources)

Storytelling script and props (see additional resources) or the PowerPoint 'The 10 Commandments' (downloadable at bibleworld.co.uk/resources)

Whiteboards and markers or paper and pens.



Key Points from the Story

Christians believe

- The account of God giving the Ten Commandments to Moses is true because it is in the Bible.
- God gave his people rules to help them to live the best way. He didn't set rules to be mean, rather to keep them safe and help them thrive in his world.
- God expects his people to follow the rules.
- God is Holy. He is different from humans.
- There are consequences for not obeying God's rules.



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. Introduction:

'Where do you have rules? Are you good at following rules? We're going to spend some time thinking about a Christian belief. Christians believe that God gives them rules. It's a story from this book in the Bible commonly called 'The Ten Commandments'. What do you know about the Bible?'

Show the children a bible and tell them you're going to tell them a story from it.

Then ask:

Q: Who can tell me the name of this book?

A: The Bible

Q: Does anyone know what we call people who believe the Bible is a special book?

A: Christians

Q: Does anyone know why Christians think is this a special book?

Accept answers and then affirm/give answers. They might be:

- Christians believe that God and Jesus exist and the Bible is about them.
- They can learn more about God and Jesus by reading it.
- They believe it's true.
- They believe that God wrote/inspired it.
- They believe that God speaks to them through it.
- They believe it helps them know what God wants them to do.

Q: Is anyone willing to share what they think about the Bible?

Allow respectful answers and debate. Extend the discussion – do you have enough knowledge to make a decision? Do you need to research it a bit more?

Q: Some of us here will be Christians and some won't. Why do you think we are all going to listen to and explore a story from it? If we don't believe in God why should we do that?

Accept answers and then affirm/give answers

- It will help us understand what Christians believe and how that impacts on how they live.
- Maybe we can learn something – values, morals, emotions.
- We need to read it so we have the knowledge to make an informed choice, to help us develop our beliefs.

Q: The Bible is split into two parts. Does anyone know what they're called?

A: Old Testament and New Testament.

Q: Which comes first?

A: Old Testament, it starts with the account of God making the world and goes all through the history of God's people until God sends Jesus to earth as a baby which is the first story in the New Testament. Then the New Testament is all about Jesus living on earth and everything that happened after that.

Q: Our story today is from the Old Testament. So does that mean it happened before or after Jesus came to earth as a baby?

A: before

10 minutes

2. 'But before I tell you that story let's set the scene. Does anyone know the story of Joseph and his coloured coat? Let me quickly tell you what happened after that.' Briefly recap the story of the Israelites and the exodus from Egypt. Use the PowerPoint 'Moses and the Israelites in Egypt' (downloadable at bibleworld.co.uk/resources) and the following notes.
 - At this time God's people are called the Israelites.
 - At the end of the story of Joseph and his coloured coat, the Israelites are happily living in Egypt after Joseph helped the Pharaoh and the Egyptians during a famine.
 - A new Pharaoh came to power in Egypt. He forgot how Joseph had helped the Israelites and was worried the Israelites were going to fight against the Egyptians. So he made them his slaves and made them work very hard. (SLIDE 1)
 - God saw what was going on and heard the Israelites when they cried out to him for help. He chose one of the Israelites called Moses to be their leader and rescue them from being slaves in Egypt. (SLIDE 2)
 - When Moses asked Pharaoh to let the Israelites go Pharaoh said no. God showed his power by turning Moses' staff (walking stick) into a snake. Then God sent ten plagues, ten terrible events, to Egypt. (Can you find out what they were?) Eventually Pharaoh let the Israelites go. (SLIDE 3)
 - The Israelites left Egypt. During the day God went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud, and at night he led them with a pillar of fire. God was always with them. (SLIDE 4)
 - When they got to the Red Sea God did something amazing. When Moses lifted his hands God divided the sea and the Israelites could walk

through. When the Egyptians tried to follow them the sea came crashing down on them. (SLIDE 5)

- The Israelites were now in the desert. They complained there was no food or water. God looked after them by making water come out of a rock (when Moses hit it with his staff) and providing birds and bread for them to eat. (SLIDE 6)

‘The story we’re going to hear is what happens next.’

10 minutes

3. Tell the account of God giving the Ten Commandments. Include the children in the telling. You could use the ideas/script in the resources section. Alternatively download the PowerPoint of images ‘The 10 Commandments’ (downloadable at bibleworld.co.uk/resources) to help you tell the story. If you choose to tell the story in a different way ensure it includes all the details. **10 minutes**
4. Invite the children to read the story for themselves in the Bible. Did you tell it accurately? Did you miss any bits out or add anything in? Have a mixture of Bibles, children’s and full version, for them to choose from. **10 minutes**
5. Ask them to brainstorm with a partner. What have they learnt about God in this story? What is he like? What did he do? Write this in your jotter or on whiteboards. Feedback and discuss their answers. Were they surprised by anything they discovered? Reinforce that Christians believe God is how he is described in the Bible. There can be some big questions in here – is God meant to punish people? Does punishing people mean you don’t love them? Did God say ‘do not murder’ but then tell Moses to kill people? How does that work? You may want to write some of the questions down and invite your school chaplain in to help you discuss them more. **10 minutes**
6. Ask them to write down any questions they have about the story and what they’ve discussed. Discuss their questions if time. **5 minutes**