Ocean Academy Poole
an Aspirations Academy
Self-Worth | Engagement | Purpose

Learning Journey Map

Year: 6 Term: Autumn

Subject: RE Topic: Christianity

<u>Key Question:</u> Which of Jesus' parables teaches the most important lessons about how Christians should treat other people?
<u>Power Skill:</u> Critical Thinking - Students compare parables (e.g. Good Samaritan, Sheep and the Goats, Lost Son) and evaluate which teaches the most important lesson about how Christians should treat others, applying previous year's knowledge of key Christian principles.

<u>National Curriculum Learning Objectives</u>

To retell religious stories (such as The Lost Sheep) and suggest meanings for them.

To make links between the messages within Jesus' parables and the way people live their lives today

To talk about issues of good and bad, right and wrong arising from the teachings found in stories.

To recognise that sacred texts contain stories which are special to many people and should be treated with respect

Key Vocabulary

Christianity	Jesus	parable	The Lost Sheep	Good Samaritan
Feeding of the 5000	Bible	Levite	Samaritan	disciple

<u>Key Learning</u>

Main points:
- Deity: God
- Holy book: The Bible (Old Testament and New Testament)
- Place of worship: Church
- Important symbols: star, cross
- Approximate worldwide followers: 2.3 billion people, or 31.2% of the world population
- Denominations (examples of): Roman Catholics, Church of England, Baptists, Adventist, Evangelical
- Countries that are predominantly Christian (examples of): Britain, America, Australia, Mexico, Italy, Russia, Philippines.
- Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God, who was sent to Earth by God to forgive people of their sins.

What are parables?
A parable is a tale that illustrates a moral lesson or ethical principle. Parables are concise, expressive and often appear in spiritual texts such as the Bible. Parables feature human characters and situations, distinguishing them from fables, which typically involve plants and animals. The word comes from the Greek 'bolē' (throwing) and 'para' (alongside).
Parables appear throughout cultures and religions. The Bible contains numerous parables, and the parables of Jesus make up around a third of his recorded teachings. They consist of memorable stories on everyday themes, conveying deep messages that are central to the teachings of Christianity.

<u>Lost Sheep Luke 15: 1-7</u> *(Below is a simplified version however Year 6 should be encouraged to read the parable from the Bible too).*

Many years ago, some of Jesus' friends thought that God loved some people more than others. They also thought that these people were more important than others. They asked Jesus, "Teacher, who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
Jesus asked a little child to stand with him and he told his friends that everyone is important to God. He told them a story about the Lost Sheep.
There once lived a shepherd who had a flock of a hundred sheep. He loved every one of his sheep and even named them. Every night, he counted his sheep to make sure he had a hundred.
Everyday he would help his sheep find the best green grass to eat and look for nice clean water to drink. This wasn't easy because sometimes dangerous animals, like bears and lions, would come along to try and hurt his sheep. The shepherd was brave and protected the sheep, chasing all the dangerous animals away.
If a sheep wandered away from the flock, he would call out the sheep's name. When the sheep heard the shepherd's voice, they would run back to the shepherd.

One evening, the shepherd took his sheep home and began counting his sheep. He only counted ninety-nine sheep. One was missing. The shepherd left his ninety-nine sheep in a safe place and went looking for his one lost sheep.

<u>Resources:</u> Class set of Bibles

Key Learning

The shepherd looked for hours behind bushes and in deep valleys. He would look everywhere until he found the one lost sheep. Finally, he found the one lost sheep. He lifted it onto his shoulders and carried him back to the other ninety-nine sheep. Now the shepherd could be happy because all of the sheep were safe.

After Jesus told this story, he told his friends that God does not look at one person and say "This person is important so they are the greatest in the kingdom of heaven or this person is not important so they are the least important in the kingdom of heaven."
He told his friends that every person, even the little child standing next to him, is important to God and he does not want one single person to be lost.
It also teaches Christians about the forgiveness of others; even if they become lost or lose their way, we should welcome them back.

Thinking Point: What message does this parable give to a Christian? How does it teach them how to live their life? Which of the 10 commandments does this parable link to? Why do you think Jesus told this parable?

Good Samaritan Luke 10: 25-37 (Below is a simplified version however Year 6 should be encouraged to read the parable from the Bible too).
As Jesus spoke to his followers, a lawyer stood up to test him, "Teacher, what must I do to have an eternal life?" asked the lawyer.
"What is written in the law?" Jesus asked the lawyer.
"Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, with all your strength and with all of your mind," the lawyer replied.
"You must love your neighbour as yourself."
"You have answered correctly," Jesus said. "Do this and you will live."
"Who exactly is my neighbour?" the lawyer asked. In response to this question, Jesus told a parable.

Long ago, a Jewish man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho along a dangerous road. As he walked, two thieves jumped out onto the road and attacked him; they beat and robbed the Jewish man before running away, leaving him barely alive at the side of the road.
A short while later, a priest saw the injured Jewish man at the side of the road. Rather than rushing to help him, the priest crossed the road and passed by on the other side. A few moments later, a Levite (a Jewish male) also found the wounded man. Just as the priest had done, the Levite crossed the road and passed by the Jewish man.
Later, a Samaritan was walking along the road when he caught sight of the injured man. At the time, Samaritans and Jewish people did not like each other: each group of people tried to destroy the holy temples of the other. It would not have been expected that the Samaritan would help the Jewish man yet the Samaritan took pity on him. He bent down and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He helped the man climb up onto the back of his own donkey and then took him to an inn, walking alongside.
When they reached the inn, he paid the innkeeper for the night and asked him to look after him. 'Look after him,' the Samaritan said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'
Then, Jesus turned back to the expert in the law. 'Which of the three men was a neighbour to the injured man?' he asked. 'The man who had mercy on him,' said the expert in the law. 'Then go and do likewise,' said Jesus.

The Good Samaritan story is generally accepted to carry the moral that you should be kind to everyone and count everyone as your neighbour, even if they have a different background to you, or believe different things. There's also a point about hypocrisy to be made, with the supposedly 'holy' men walking past someone that really needs their help.
Over time, lots of different theologians have studied the parable and presented different interpretations. Some argue that the story is a parable, with each character standing for a theme, or a group of people. At a basic level, however, the main theme of the story is kindness without discrimination, reaching out to others that need your help, and being a genuinely good neighbour to everyone you meet.

Thinking Point: What message does this parable give to a Christian? How does it teach them how to live their life? Which of the 10 commandments does this parable link to? Why do you think Jesus told this parable?

Opportunity for writing: Which parable do you think teaches Christians the most important lesson? Why?

This could perhaps take the form of a balanced argument or a debate.