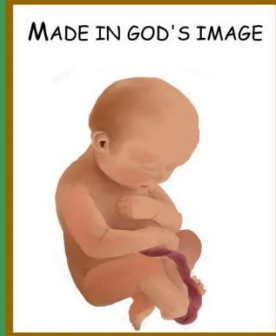


Education

Equality



Changed



Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105



SPREADING THE KINGDOM

Healthcare

Justice

Lesson 26: *A Light to Our Path* (Condensed Version)

Saint Matthew's Anglican Church Children's Ministries

HOW THE BIBLE CHANGED THE WORLD (Scripture: See main lesson plan)

Year 2. Kingdom Life
Unit 9: Spreading the Kingdom

Objectives: To explain that: *The Bible is the most important and influential book in the whole world. It has inspired millions of people to develop the areas of education, equality, justice, and healthcare for all people.

"I Wonder" Questions: *(Show lesson poster, partly covered)* *What do you see in this picture? ***I wonder** why there is a light behind the Bible. *I wonder how the Bible can help us spread God's Kingdom. *I wonder why the heart says "changed". Let's find out more in our lesson.

Lesson Props: Cover each corner (symbol and circle) with large post-it notes numbered #1 - #4. Also see more pictures on pg. 3

Lesson Summary: The Bible is the most important and influential book in the whole world. Let's look at some of the ways that God's Word, the Bible, has changed the world and made it better. *(Remove post-it notes as indicated by number)* **#1.** Because the **Bible** is a book, we need to be able to **read** it to know God's ways. Therefore, it is important for everyone to be educated, to learn how to read and write. This way, the Bible inspires us to change the world through providing **EDUCATION** for all. *(Show pic. of child labour)* In many places children don't get to go to school but have to work hard all day to make money to help feed their families. But all over the world many Christians, inspired by the Bible, have built wonderful schools for children, to give them an education, a better future, and help them out of poverty. **#2.** The Bible teaches us that we are **made in God's image**, and that we should love all people and treat everyone equally with kindness and respect. This is called **EQUALITY**. *(Show pic. of people)* It doesn't matter whether you are young or old, strong or weak, rich or poor, or the colour of your skin. Each one of us is equally valuable to God and should be treated equally. **#3.** God gave the **10 Commandments** as a set of laws to help us know what is right and wrong, what is good and bad. The Commandments teach us to love God and others, and help us create a good and safe place to live. God cares about righteousness and **JUSTICE** for all. *(Show pic. of slaves)* In many nations throughout history and even today, many leaders are cruel, misuse their power over the people, and steal from them. But the Bible teaches that leaders cannot do what they want, they also should follow God's law. They should rule with fairness and justice and protect the weak and the poor. Good laws, justice and safety develop in countries **when** people follow the Bible. **#4.** In the Bible, Jesus told the story of a kind person, a **Samaritan**, who took care of an injured man. The Bible teaches us that God is full of compassion, and it also teaches **us** to be full of compassion towards others who are in need. That has inspired the development of **HEALTHCARE**, good doctors, medicines, and hospitals. *(Show pic. of hospital)* In fact, hospitals were built all over the world by people who were following Jesus and obeying the Bible's commands to care for those in need. *(Point to green circles)* Wow, look at all these ideas that came from the Bible that have changed the world so much! But it wasn't just **ideas** that changed the world. *(Point to Holy Spirit and heart)* It was the Holy Spirit that worked through the Bible to change people's **hearts**! When people read the Bible, they learned that their sins could be forgiven through Jesus *(point to cross)* and that through the power of the Holy Spirit their hearts could be changed to become more **like** Jesus. **Their changed heart is what enabled them to take action to change the world to be a better place.** The Bible is a wonderful gift from God! Our memory verse today says: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." God's Word, the Bible, teaches us the best way to live, and it shows us the way to Jesus, who is the Light of the World!

Suggested Questions: ***What does this lesson tell us about God?** (He gave us the wonderful gift of the Bible that is a light to our path and shows us the best way to live) ***What are some of the ways the Bible has inspired people to change the world to be a better place?** (Education, Equality, Justice, Healthcare) ***What does the Holy Spirit do to our hearts when we read the Bible?** (He changes our hearts to become more like Jesus. Our changed hearts enable us to take action to change the world to be a better place.) ***Do you have a Bible at home?** ***Do you read it?**

Bible Memory Verse: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105 - ESV)

1



2



3



4



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Year 2 - Lesson 26 – A Light to Our Path