



CMSI Children's Resource

NEPAL

Teaching Plans





Key teaching point + Why should we care about the earth?

- *We are stewards and trustees of creation
- *The earth matters to God

Session 1
Purple

The *Switched On* material can be used in whatever order or format works best for you. However, the following suggested outline may prove helpful.



Group Time

Introduce the group to **Switched On** and briefly explain what they will be learning about in the coming weeks. (PPT slide 2) Spend some time looking at the map of the world - where Nepal is in relation to us (PPT slides 3 and 4/map video).



Quiz Time

Quick fact file on prior knowledge of Nepal (select questions - don't feel you need to do them all on the PPT slides 5-24) Explain that Nepal will be our focus - a country rich in culture and natural beauty.



Discussion

Why should we care about the earth? PPT slide 25



Zooming in on the Bible

Begin by talking about soil! **Bring some soil to today's lesson, along with some teaspoons.** Ask the young people to take a teaspoon of soil and have a look at it. Ask them if they know how many microbes are in one teaspoon of soil? Use PPT slides 26-27 to discuss the wonder of creation - one teaspoon of soil contains more living organisms than there are people in the world! There can be up to 50,000 different species in one teaspoon!

Explain to them that the Bible is filled with God's love for creation and the wonder of the world. God created people to look after the world.

Read: **Genesis 2:15** either in NIV, from the Bible extract sheet or PPT slide 28.

What does this tell us about our role?

- Unpack that we are stewards or trustees of creation, so the earth matters to God.

Read: **Psalms 24:1** either in NIV, from the Bible extract sheet or PPT slide 29.



Talk about how God created the universe and placed people on the earth so that they could share in God's overflowing love, grace and goodness through their relationships with the Trinity. Explain that God loves everyone (we will build on this next lesson).

Use the Nepali banner (ppt) to discuss the diversity and wonder of creation. Discuss Nepali script - attempt to write the verse in Nepali.



Workbook Activity (PPT slide 30)

Have a go writing Psalm 24:1 in Nepali (workbook page 1).



Film 1 (5 minutes)

After the film, ask the young people if they have any questions about what they saw or what differences they see between Nepal and Ireland.



Memory Verse - Galatians 6:2

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2 (PPT slide 31)

(This verse has been chosen to help build upon the CIYD Climate toolkit resource)

Each week we will be learning the same memory verse but exploring a different element of it. This week the focus is on 'one another'. To help the young people begin to learn the memory verse get them up on their feet, walking around the room. Change direction when they say the word 'and'. Increase frequency until they are changing direction after every word OR say the memory verse as they juggle a **balloon**.



Prepare to pray (PPT slide 32)

Go for a walk - bring some of God's creation back to your room: leaves from trees, flowers, or specially formed stones. Look carefully at the natural elements you have brought back - hold each thing, look at what other people selected - talk about the elements together. Use workbook page 1 to script a prayer for God's earth.



Prayer

Finish the lesson with the suggested prayer in the workbooks (workbook page 1).



Round-up

Ask the group to turn to their partner and tell them the following: (prompts on PPT slides 33-34 with option to pick 1)

- ✓ explain what it means to be a trustee/ steward of creation;
- ✓ what are the implications of this mandate?
- ✓ one thing they learnt from the DVD film today?
- ✓ how could they explain what they learnt today to someone who wasn't in class?



Key teaching point + What happens when we don't care?

- * Consequences of climate change
- * It's a responsibility and privilege to care for God's creation
- * People bear God's image so share in this responsibility and privilege

Session 2
Purple



Group Time : Recap on last lesson PPT slide 2– why should we care about the earth? Ask the young people to tell you anything they can remember about Nepal. Introduce the theme for today by building on last lesson – remind children of the question they discussed: why should we care about the earth? Recap that the earth matters to God and people matter to God.



Zooming in on the Bible : Begin by talking about mirrors! Discuss what can mirrors do that a piece of paper can't do – what is a reflection? Look at how the same image is reflected back (PPT slide 3). Explain to them that in the Bible we read about a different kind of image – people were made in the image of God. This doesn't mean that we look like God but that we reflect something of the character of God. Discuss what that might be. Tease out attributes of God found in the world around us and in people.
Read: **Genesis 1:27** either in NIV, from the Bible extract sheet or PPT slide 4. Unpack that everyone is special no matter who you are or where you are from.



Discuss: Imago Dei and N Wolterstorff quotation (PPT slide 5) **If all people are made in the image of God, how might that change how we see one another?**



Craft activity – made in the image of God

Materials – airdry clay; plates; water; cloths, ppt images (Images from shevet, trinity nottingham, South Lanarkshire primaries, pinimg)

Instructions:

- ★ Give each young person a piece of clay and a plate.
- ★ Show them the images of clay people on the PPT slide 6 – each is an individual but together they help us see how human beings are made in the image of God when they are together and they care for one another.
- ★ You may want to make a display with all the figures from all of the classes to help convey this idea of the individual and collective.



Discussion : Bearing God's image is an amazing thing – it is both a privilege and a responsibility.
PPT slide 7: What happens when we don't care? If the earth and all people matter to God, what happens when we don't care for the earth and each other?



Film 2 (5 minutes)

After the film, ask the young people if they have any questions about what they saw. Some may be distressed by the floods and thought of people being hurt. Gently reinforce that this is something that really happens but that we can do something about it...see next two lessons to reinforce the message of hope and personal involvement in changing things.

How did the film help us see what happens when we don't care for the earth? You may want to use some of the CIYD resources in their climate toolkit to explore the science of climate change and how it is the consequence of people's actions.



Memory Verse: "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2 (PPT slide 8)

This week the focus is on 'bear[ing]...burdens'. To help the young people remember the memory verse sit in a circle. Say the memory verse together. Then take one word each and work around the circle. Start at different points each time. To make it more challenging, have a **ball** and get them to say each word of the verse when the ball is thrown

to them (the balls needs to keep moving – a bit like a hot potato rather than deliberating who to pass to next)

To consolidate the memory verse, play the following game:



Game :Yarn Web (PPT slide 9)

Materials – large ball(s) of thick yarn, several heavy objects

Instructions:

- Make a circle standing as close to one another as they can.
- Give them a big ball of thick yarn.
- One person hold on to the end of the yarn, and instruct them to pass the ball of yarn to someone across the circle.
- When that person catches the yarn, instruct them to make the yarn as taut as possible, to hold on to that next portion of yarn, and to pass the yarn to someone else.
- Continue this process as many times as possible. Remember to make the line as taut as possible.
- Make sure that each person in the circle is holding part of the yarn as it continues to get passed around.
- Use the entire ball of yarn until the youth have formed a thick, strong web of yarn.
- Invite them to notice how this yarn has them all connected to one another, that if anything were to push the yarn down, they would all feel the weight of that.
- Have one of the youth begin to pull their part of the yarn down toward the ground.
- Have them note what is happening, that when one pulls it down, they all feel the pull of it, but that they are still managing to keep the yarn up. The web they have constructed is strong!
- Now begin adding heavy objects to this tightly constructed web. See how much you can add to the web and how much they are able to bear together.



Round-up

Ask the young people to condense the following two concepts into two sentences that they could share with someone at home. Use workbooks page 2 to record their thoughts.



- What is significant about being made in the image of God – imago Dei?
- How can you begin to help bear the burden of climate injustice?



Prayer

Finish the lesson with the suggested prayer in the workbooks on page 2 or on PPT slide 9.

Key teaching point + Why should we care about people far away?

* love your neighbour as yourself

Session 3
Purple



Group Time

Recap on the last 2 lessons PPT slide 2– why should we care about the earth? What happens when we don't care? Introduce the theme for today by building on last lesson – if everyone is made in God's image and every person matters to God, how might that change how we view ourselves? Discuss that God wants us to love ourselves – not in an arrogant or selfish way but in a good and proper manner – we should care about ourselves because we matter to God – we are precious and so we should be kind to ourselves.



Zooming in on the Bible

Begin by asking the young people how they can tell the character of someone (a parent/teacher/friend). What sorts of things help you know if your teacher is kind? Discuss how what someone says/does/their rules help us learn a lot about them. Discuss what a commandment is. Discuss what the most important commandment is. Explain that God's commandments are rules or guides to help people live in good and right ways. Explain that when Jesus came, he said there are just 2 commandments, and they are both about love. What might this tell us about God's character?

Read: **Mark 12:29-31** either in NIV, from the Bible extract sheet or PPT slide 3.

If we are to love our neighbour as ourselves, how might that change our behaviour?

(this commandment to love our neighbour as ourselves has its roots right back in the early part of the Bible – Leviticus 19:18. From the very start, God's character was one of love.)



Game : Stick it to your neighbour (PPT slide 4)

Materials – 2 forks taped to the end of garden cane/long sticks (at least 1 metre), a bowl of marshmallows

Instructions:

- Select 2 young people.
- Explain to them that they must eat at least one marshmallow each with a fork.
- Present the long fork.
- They must not move their hands up the stick.

If the sticks are long enough and they don't cheat by moving their hands, they will need to work together to feed each other. The purpose of this game is to help the young people see the need to work together and care for each other rather than go it alone.



Discussion

Discuss some of the ways that we can show love to others – consider the ways in which we can demonstrate their love for their families/friends/teachers etc. Remind them of the Nepal video from last lesson – how could people show love to one another in Nepal after an emergency?



Film 3 (3 minutes)

After the film, ask the young people if they have any questions about what they saw. How do CMS Ireland's global partners in Nepal show love to others? What might make it difficult for them? Why do they keep going, helping others despite the challenges? What can we learn from this?



Why should we care about people far away? PPT slide 5 (use this to set up next lesson which is the parable of the good Samaritan)



Memory Verse – Galatians 6:2

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2 (PPT slide 6)

This week the focus is on 'fulfil[ling] the law of Christ'. This means that caring for one other and 'bearing burdens' together is a command we have been given by God. The children should feel comfortable with the memory verse by now – do a quick recap on the wording. One way in which we can show we care is to work on communicating with everyone and caring enough to learn new things to help others feel included. This week we are going to learn how to say the memory verse in sign language.

Sign language - Film (1 minute)



Discussion : How does this clause of the memory verse change the first part? Unpack the imperative that Christians must be proactive in community, sharing and loving one another in order to live out Christ's commands. What implications does this have for our lives? How might this alter your future plans? As the young people think through the implications of these ideas, watch the 5 minute video from Laudato Si' to help them think through some of the ways they can play their part <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Lz7dmn1eM> (YouTube link embedded into PPT slide 7) Pope Francis' letter on care for our common home. You may want to encourage them to have a look at the Laudatio Si' website <https://www.laudatosi.org> as they think through some of the ways in which they can take more seriously this call upon our lives.



Craft activity – loving others (collage of love)

Materials – recyclables, old materials, natural pieces like sticks, leaves etc We would encourage you to ask the whole church to support the young people in getting the resources, not just parents/carers.

Instructions:

- ★ Decide together your approach for this craft project.
- ★ Through discussion come to a decision on how you can best capture a visual of loving our neighbours as ourselves – this can be through depictions of people interacting / words / symbols made out of the materials. If you can encourage a climate focus that will help consolidate the central theme of the children's resource which is how climate change is experienced by our partners around the world, most particularly in Nepal.
- ★ See PPT slide 8 images to help generate initial ideas – Firadaus, Alonso, Melnyk, Harrison, Galima



Round-up (PPT slide 9)

Encourage the group to press pause for 1 minute. Ask them to reflect on the following:

- How can they switch off helpful self-love and turn instead to a holy, life-giving love that leads us to live for others the way that God would have us live?
- What are the implications of Christ's imperative of bearing one another's burdens for their lives?



Prayer

Finish the lesson with the suggested prayer on PPT slide 10).

Key teaching point + Who is my neighbour?

* Everyone!

Session 4
Purple



Group Time

Recap on the last 3 lessons PPT slide 2 – why should we care about the earth? What happens when we don't care? Why should we care about people far away? This is the focus of this week – who is my neighbour? PPT slide 3



Story Time

Begin by asking the young people if they know the names of their neighbours? Are our neighbours just the people who live on our street?

Read: **Luke 10:25-37** PPT slide 4 either in NIV or from the Bible extract sheet.

PPT slide 5 **Who is your neighbour? How does this change how we look after the world around us?**



Film 4 (3.5 minutes)

After the film, ask the young people if they have any questions about what they saw.

Who are CMS Ireland's neighbours? How do they practice Jesus' parable of being a good Samaritan?



Empathy task

A good Samaritan cares. Building our capacity for empathy helps us to care. Discuss the famous adage 'You can't understand a person until you walk a mile in their shoes' (PPT slide 6).

Use the visualisation task attached or the CIYD 'Walking in their shoes' task in their workbooks pages 3-6 to help the young people imagine what it would be like to experience a climate emergency in Nepal. When we try and imagine things from another person's perspective it helps us to care more deeply about them. Using workbook page 7, note some responses to hearing the second story.



Consider UN Secretary-General António Guterres words at a press conference in February 2022: "People and the planet are getting *clobbered* by climate change...It's time to turn rage into climate action...Nearly half of humanity is living in the danger zone – now...Delay means death" (PPT slide 7)



Use this activity to discuss some of the things that can be done by us in Ireland to try and reduce climate change and climate injustice. Changing actions and behaviours helps to show we care – use 'ideas area' on workbook page 7 to record some ideas – challenge the young people to share this with their families. Discussions could feed into the final week's all age service in churches.



Fundraising

Please use this as an opportunity to encourage the young people to raise funds for Nepal's emergency relief programmes. You may want to organise a fundraising activity together or encourage some individual fundraising.



Drama (PPT slide 9-10)

This activity is intended to consolidate the story of the good Samaritan whilst providing an opportunity to connect with CMSI. If you would like to have your pupils feature on our social media, you should submit 5 'freeze frame' images from your drama as a series of photos or ppt / pdf story board.

Please make sure all young people photographed have permission to be shown on social media.

Instructions for freeze frame and mini drama

PPT slide 11

- Explain the drama task has 2 elements – acting out the story and depicting it as 5 photographs / freeze frames.
- Decide on 5 best points of the story for photographing.
- Allocate roles.
- Act out the story (you can use costumes).
- Set up 5 photos/freeze frames (think carefully about the range of shots across the 5 photos – the photos should tell the story).
- You can simply number them or put them into a storyboard and send them to us at info@cmsireland.org



Memory Verse – Galatians 6:2

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" Galatians 6:2 (PPT slide 11)

This week we will consider how all elements of the memory verse link together. Recap the last 3 weeks – one another; bearing burdens; fulfilling Christ's law. This week why not write a song together to help remember the words of Galatians 6:2?



Round-up

Ask the young people to collate their ideas from today's lesson for presentation to church leaders for next week's all age service. Encourage them to think through how they can contribute to the service and the ways in which they can lead the congregation on this issue going forward.



Prayer

Finish the lesson by encouraging the young people to pray through their two pledges (workbook page 7/PPT slide 12)



Visualisation exercise

Instructions

- Explain to the children that they are going to play a short movie in their heads. They are going to close their eyes and listen really carefully. They should try and imagine being the person in each part of the story – what does it feel like?
- Read the first paragraph slowly. Pause before reading the second paragraph slowly.

Extract

It's Friday night and you're warm in bed. You hear the rain as it starts to fall pitter-patter, splish splosh in the gutter outside your window. "Ah no", you think to yourself, "not another wet night! The ground will be wrecked tomorrow. I bet the match will be cancelled again. I hate our damp, mucky weather. I wish I lived somewhere else".

[pause]

It's Friday night and you hear a distant rumble. Heavy rain thuds on the ground outside as water gushes along the main road. Shouts and falling rubble from neighbours close by signalling fear – the quake is closer than you'd thought. Dragging a blanket under the bed frame, you can't stop the aching worry for your best friend living down by the river. That's the worst place to be. You huddle with your family bracing yourself for another long night, hoping that the house will be able to withstand the water and tremors for another day. "Please God, let the rain stop soon".



Bible elements

Session 1

Genesis 2:15 – “The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it.”

Psalms 24:1 – “The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.”

Session 2

Genesis 1:27 – “God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them.”

Session 3

Leviticus 19:18 – “Love your neighbour as yourself.”

Mark 12:29-31 – “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Session 4

Luke 10:25-37

The parable of the good Samaritan

25 A teacher of the Law came up and tried to trap Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to receive eternal life?”

26 Jesus answered him, “What do the Scriptures say? How do you interpret them?”

27 The man answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind’; and ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself.’”

28 “You are right,” Jesus replied; “do this and you will live.”

29 But the teacher of the Law wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbour?”

30 Jesus answered, “There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. **31** It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. **32** In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. **33** But a Samaritan who was travelling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. **34** He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. **35** The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Take care of him,’ he told the innkeeper, ‘and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.’”

36 And Jesus concluded, “In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbour toward the man attacked by the robbers?”

37 The teacher of the Law answered, “The one who was kind to him.” Jesus replied, “You go, then, and do the same.”