|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Strands** | | | Faith in Action, Actions leading to faith; The Bible and Christian Beliefs | | | | | | |
| **Stage of Development** | | | Primary (Years 3-6) | | | **Created** May 2021 | | **Review** 2025 | |
| **Aim** | | | This unit seeks to introduce students to God’s generosity. It challenges students to reflect on how they are generous and where they have opportunities to give without expecting anything in return. | | | | | | |
| **Content Descriptions** | | | **Knowledge and Understanding**   * Define generosity and identify what generosity looks like * Describe the Christmas story including an understanding of God’s generous gift to humanity in Jesus * Identify examples of generosity in modern society * Identify opportunities for generosity in the school community | | | | **Religious Studies Skills & virtues**   * Generosity * Service learning | | |
| **Resources** | | | Names of Jesus Advent Calendar <https://sweethoneycomb.com.au/> | | | | This would be great for a classroom display. Well designed. It has one card to peg onto some string each day of Advent. You could do this as a routine each day with your students during this unit even if your teaching days do not align exactly with Advent. Alternatively, you could purchase an advent calendar and open it each day with the students during this unit. | | | |
| The Song of the Stars-a Christmas Story by Sally Lloyd-Jones <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFbm0wS3rlg> | | | | This is a beautiful retelling of the Christmas story that uses many of the names of Jesus we will be looking at in this unit. You could easily read it more than once to your class. As an extension you could ask students to write their own picture book that uses the different names of Jesus to tell the story of Jesus’ birth or life. | | | |
| Lumo videos of the Gospels  <https://www.bible.com/videos/3280/series> | | | | This website has videos for all the Gospel passages and many more. These videos could be used as an alternative to reading the Bible or looking it up online. | | | |
| **Lesson** | | **Key Questions** | | **Lesson Activity Ideas** | | | | | **Resources** | | |
| **1** | Defining Generosity | What does it mean to be generous? | | 10min  15min  5min  15min | Activity: place some paper at the front of the room and ask each student to draw a picture of their favourite toy. Make sure there is not enough paper for each student to have one each. When the volunteer realises there are not enough for one each put it back on the volunteer to solve the problem. Discuss after this activity what was required to ensure everyone could complete the activity i.e. a willingness to share by ripping the paper in half or drawing on the same piece as someone else. OR If the volunteer was not able to solve the problem and some students missed out, ask the students who missed out to reflect on what it felt like to miss out and discuss how a willingness to share may have solved the problem.  Read: A children’s book about generosity e.g. The Spiffiest Giant in Town by Julia Donaldson. Discuss what it means to be generous (The quality of being willing to share).  Brainstorm: Ask the students to brainstorm things that stop them for sharing e.g. not trusting someone else with their special toy, fear they’ll miss out etc  Activity: Ask the students to write an acrostic poem using the word generosity. | | | | The Spiffiest Giant in Town by Julia Donaldson. | | |
| 2 | Examples of Generosity - Jesus | How does Jesus demonstrate generosity? | | 2min  5min  10min  30min | Brainstorm: Ask the students to tell you about the richest person they know. Discuss the difference between rich and poor.  Read: 2 Corinthians 8:9 (CEV) *You know that our Lord Jesus Christ was kind enough to give up all his riches and become poor, so that you could become rich*. Discuss what this verse means (Jesus was generous. Jesus gave up heaven and being with God to become a human, live with us and die to save us from our sins).  Watch: The video titled Generosity by the Bible Project (5min). (<https://thebibleproject.com/videos/generosity/>). Students could also read and explore the page on generosity (<https://thebibleproject.com/explore/generosity/>). Discuss what the video means when it talks about the ‘great lie that there is not enough’.  Read: Acts 20:35 (CEV) ..*More blessings come from giving than from receiving*. Ask the students to reflect on this verse and to write a creative writing piece based on this verse. | | | | Video: [Generosity](https://thebibleproject.com/videos/generosity/) | | |
| 3 | Examples of generosity in the Bible | What does generosity look like? | | 5min  25min  15min | Reflection: Ask the students to share how they have been generous in the last week.  Activity: Break the students into small groups and allocate each group a different passage. Ask each group to read their passage, discuss as a group and share their answers to the following questions with the class.   1. What happens in the story? 2. What does the story mean? 3. What does this story teach us about generosity? 4. How might different people understand this story? 5. Why might my understanding of this story be different to other peoples’ understanding of this story?   Passages  Luke 12:1-4 – generous people give out of their poverty  Luke 10:25-37 – generous people give more than just money  Genesis 45 or the story of Joseph from a Children’s Bible – Generous people give even when it doesn’t make sense  Matthew 14:14-21 – generous people give to see God make the impossible possible  Luke 19- generous people give as a by-product of meeting Jesus  Activity: What does generous giving look like? Ask the students to write their answer on a scape of paper and place them in a hat. Each student should pull out one response that’s not their own. Go around the class and discuss the different responses. Come up with a class response to this question. | | | |  | | |
| **4-5** | The Spirit of Christmas | What does the movie a Christmas Carol communicate about generosity? | |  | Watch: A Christmas Carol (2009, 96min) or the Muppet version (1992) with the class and discuss with the students what they think the movie is trying to communicate about ‘the Spirit of Christmas’. How is this message similar or different to what Jesus tells us about generosity? | | | | Movie: A Christmas Carol | | |
| **6** | Presents at Christmas time | What is the link between the custom of giving presents at Christmas time and the birth of Jesus?  How can we use the custom of giving presents at Christmas time to give without expecting anything in return? | | 5min  5min  35min | Discuss: Ask the students to describe the best gift they have ever received. Ask them to explain why they think it’s the best gift.  Explain: one of the reasons we have the custom of giving and receiving presents at Christmas time, is to remind us of the presents given to Jesus by the Wise Men: Frankincense, Gold and Myrrh. The meaning behind each of these gifts is significant for many Christians.  **Gold:** is associated with Kings and Christians believe that Jesus is the King of Kings.  **Frankincense:** is sometimes used in worship and showed that people would worship Jesus.  **Myrrh:** is a perfume put on dead bodies to make them smell nice; Christians believe that this gift showed that Jesus would suffer and die.  Jesus birth is a big present that God gave the world. One of the most famous Bible verses John 3:16 explains this “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only son, so that whoever believes in him may not be lost but have eternal life”. God gave us the gift of Jesus without asking us for anything in return. We did not deserve God’s gift. This is called grace.  A school-based project: introduce the students to a school-based project that allows students to be generous without expecting anything in return. Contact Anglicare if you need some help developing a project. Spend remaining lessons engaging in this project.  Extension: Christmas card craft | | | | School based project  Printout: Christmas card template | | |