



Bethania Lutheran School

Christian Studies

Christian Studies underpins the ethos of our school and, at times, is carefully integrated with other subjects into Project Based Learning experiences. Christian Studies introduces children to the world of religion and spirituality, which are integral components of all cultures. In the early years we acknowledge that all people are on a lifelong journey of faith and we must value open dialogue, sensitivity to the beliefs of others, interdependence and collaboration with other students, individual reflection, respect for each person's uniqueness and recognition that growth and transformation take time. Christian Studies in the early years provides an avenue for the Holy Spirit to grow faith. This occurs in safe and supportive class environments with the freedom for children to have their own views in a diverse community of differing backgrounds and experiences. The pedagogical approach in Christian Studies makes learning personally relevant, creates deep thinking and brings students to a place where they act on the challenges, values and beliefs communicated in the theology of the framework.

Content Specific Scope and Sequence of Learning & Teaching

The Christian Studies classroom is a learning environment in which students can explore a range of religious and non-religious perspectives they encounter in an increasingly pluralistic Australian society. Knowledge of other people's belief systems and analysis of the complex interplay of factors that contributes to an individual worldview, enrich students' ability to make sense of the world, determine the source of their own beliefs and values, and understand the role religion plays in society. A collaborative learning environment acknowledges and respects that students have diverse backgrounds, needs and interests. Students are mentored to:

- become articulate, empathic and discerning members of their communities
- develop religious literacy
- think, challenge and question, as well as listen to and identify the issues underlying discussion
- enter into open, respectful dialogue with people whose religious, philosophical, ethical views are different
- to present an informed, well-defended personal position

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strength in **character** *living hope*



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Prep

| | Learning Statements | Units of Work & Teaching Focus |
|---------------|--|---|
| Unit 1 | <p>Children identify stories about Jesus and discuss what Jesus said and did (CB 1.2)</p> <p>Children explain their ideas about God and who God is (CB 1.1)</p> <p>Children demonstrate an awareness of the Christian belief that God creates people and loves them unconditionally (CB 1.3)</p> | <p>Who is Jesus?</p> <p>Who is Jesus?</p> <p>What did he do?</p> <p>Where did he come from?</p> <p>What has Jesus got to do with us?</p> <p>What is Easter?</p> |
| Unit 2 | <p>Children share their experiences of Christian prayer, worship and celebrations (CC 1.3)</p> <p>Children identify and acknowledge that people think and live differently (CW 1.1)</p> | <p>I Can Be a Worship Expert</p> <p>What is worship?</p> <p>Why do we worship God?</p> <p>How can we worship God?</p> |
| Unit 3 | <p>Children hear stories about God's helpers and discuss ways they are helped and can help others (CL 1.2)</p> <p>Children tell what they learn about God and his story in the Bible (CC 1.1)</p> <p>Children hear stories about God's helpers and discuss ways they are helped and can help others (CW 1.2)</p> | <p>Who Helps God?</p> <p>Bible stories of people who acted as God's hands and feet</p> <p>How can we be God's hands and feet?</p> <p>Jesus healing people</p> |
| Unit 4 | <p>Children identify stories about Jesus and discuss what Jesus said and did (CB 1.2)</p> | <p>Jesus Vs Superman</p> <p>Is Jesus a superhero?</p> <p>Who is a better superhero- Jesus or Superman? Why?</p> <p>What special things did Jesus do while he was on earth?</p> |

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Year 1

| | Learning Statements | Units of Work & Teaching Focus |
|---------------|---|--|
| Unit 1 | Children explain their ideas about God and who God is (CB1.1) Children tell what they learn about God and his story in the Bible (CC 1.1) | God's Jobs Who is God – Father Son & Holy Spirit? How does God show love to his people? What is God like? What are God's Jobs? |
| Unit 2 | Children describe ways God cares for individual people (CL 1.1) Children identify and acknowledge that people think and live differently (CW 1.1) | I am Incredible Why did God create me? How much does God love us? Why does God love us? What can we do with God's love? Why did God create the world? How can we love others? |
| Unit 3 | Children hear stories about God's helpers and discuss ways they are helped and can help others (CL 1.2) Children make connections between their actions and consequences for themselves and others (CW 1.3) Children discuss their experiences of God's world and demonstrate how they can care for it (CL 1.3) | Loving God What is church? What churches are in our community? What happens in a church? |
| Unit 4 | Students discuss and describe Christian beliefs about God and the blessings God gives people (CB 2.1) Students investigate and represent people's relationships with God and each other (CL 2.1) Students gather information about how God helps all people and describe how God equips people to help others (CL 2.2) Students explore and describe what it means to live and care for the world (CL 2.3) Children identify and acknowledge that people think and live differently (CW 1.1) Children make connections between their actions and consequences for themselves and others (CW 1.3) | Refugee Awareness Who am I and How Can I Change the World? How did Jesus help others? How did the disciples help others? How can we help? |

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Year 2

| | Learning Statements | Units of Work & Teaching Focus |
|---------------|--|---|
| Unit 1 | Students gather and present information about the life and teachings of Jesus (CB 2.2) | Jesus, This is Your Life! Who is Jesus? How can we live like Jesus? |
| Unit 2 | Students draw conclusions about the purposes of the Christian church in the local community (CC 2.2) Students identify and find out about religious groups in their local community (CW 2.1) | Our Church Community What is the Church all about? How can I best worship God? |
| Unit 3 | Students gather information about how God helps all people and describe how God equips people to help others (CL 2.2) Students explore and outline ways Christians make decisions about how to live (CW 2.3) Students discuss and describe Christian beliefs about God and the blessings God gives people (CB 2.1) | Our God How does God care for and help people? How does God provide for and guide His people? How does God keep His promises? |
| Unit 4 | Students research and describe key Christian practices and celebrations (CC 2.3) Students gather information about how God helps all people and describe how God equips people to help others (CL 2.2) | God's Special Gift Why should we help and serve others? How can I use my unique characteristics, abilities and gifts to help and serve others? How is Jesus God's special gift? |

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Year 3

| | Learning Statements | Units of Work & Teaching Focus |
|---------------|--|--|
| Unit 1 | Students investigate and explain significant features of the Bible and its importance for Christians (CC2.1) | The Bible as Our Guide What is the purpose of the Bible? How does the Bible tell us how to live our lives? How does the Bible communicate God's plan for us? |
| Unit 2 | Students investigate and represent people's relationships with God and with each other (CL 2.1) | Relationships With God and Others Students will investigate God's love and care for his created people and learn that this stems from his desire to be in relationship with them. Students will also explore how God uses people and structures to achieve his purposes in the world. |
| Unit 3 | Students investigate spirituality by describing how Christians experience the presence of God in the world (CW 2.2) Students explore and describe what it means to live and care for the world (CL 2.3) | Spirituality and Our Responsibility in the World What does it mean to be and live as a Christian? How can we take care of God's creation? How is spirituality expressed by Christians and other religions? |
| Unit 4 | Students analyse rescue stories from the Bible (CB 2.3) | God's Plan to Rescue Us How is sin evident in the world? How does God demonstrate his love by rescuing, forgiving, restoring and saving us through Jesus? |

Please note: These units are listed in a suggested sequence but can be taught in any order across the year. The units of work and teaching foci are also suggestions only but care should be taken if selecting another to ensure that the unit of another year level is not used. If you choose to plan a different unit of work, please do so in consultation with the Deputy Principal. For examples of units previously planned see the 'Curriculum' folder under 'Units of Work' on the school network.

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