

## ***My Aussie Godly Play Scripture in Schools (SRE) Syllabus 2014***

### ***Godly Play Term 1 – New Testament: Stories from Jesus’ life, Easter Themes: Who was Jesus? Preparing for Easter, Jesus is still with us***

Week 1 – Name game, get to know each other, Year 4/5/6 – quiz, practicing listening / stillness, blessing song: “For you the stillness”

Week 2 – Faces of Easter I

Week 3 - Faces of Easter II

Week 4 - Faces of Easter III

Week 5 - Faces of Easter IV

Week 6 - Faces of Easter V

Week 7 - Faces of Easter VI

Week 8 – Faces of Easter VII

Alternatively, I might tell two “Faces” in one week, to allow full sessions for “work” (individual response to the stories) (see pattern in terms 2&3). If I did this, I may start the “work” session by retelling the story briefly, showing the plaques with just a sentence or two for each.

Quiz: What do we celebrate at Easter (clue: 2 part answer)? At Christmas? Tell a brief story about something Jesus did, tell something Jesus said or taught, etc.

This quiz tells me where class is starting from, and if the scores are really low, we can make an agreement that they will listen and I will catch them up to where they should be.

If I had a Godly Play room, I would include “Holy Family” the week we start Lent, and I would change the colour of the cloth beneath the Holy Family.

Reference: the complete guide to Godly Play volume 4, by Jerome W. Berryman, Morehouse Education Resources, Denver, Colorado, 2008

### ***Godly Play Term 2 – Old Testament***

#### ***Themes: Thankfulness, Who am I? The people of God***

Week 1 - Creation

Week 2 – Flood & Ark

Week 3 – “work week” – response – bring Creation and Flood&Ark materials

Week 4 – Great Family

Week 5 - Exodus

Week 6 - “work week” – response – bring Creation, Flood&Ark, Great Family, Exodus materials & dustpan & broom

Week 7 – Ten best ways

Week 8 – Ark & the Tent

Week 9 - “work week” – response – bring Creation, Great Family, Exodus, 10 best ways, Ark & Tent materials & dustpan & broom

Week 10 – Exile and Return

Reference: the complete guide to Godly Play volume 2, by Jerome W. Berryman, Morehouse Education Resources, Denver, Colorado, 2010

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### ***Godly Play Term 3 – Parables***

#### ***Themes: Values & What is important?***

Week 1 – Parable of the Good Shepherd (up to lost sheep)

Week 2 - Parable of the Good Shepherd (whole)

Week 3 – “work week” – response – bring story materials from recent weeks

Week 4 - Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32)

Week 5 - Parable of the Great Pearl (Matthew 13:45-46)

Week 6 – “work week” – response – bring story materials from recent weeks

Week 7 - Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-8)

Week 8 – Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35)

Week 9 - “work week” – response – bring story materials from recent weeks

Week 10 - Parable of the Leaven (Matthew 13:33) & feast (if school/allergies allow) (or, if class has shown interest, Parable of Parables or Parable of the Deep Well)

Reference: the complete guide to Godly Play volume 3, by Jerome W. Berryman, Morehouse Education Resources, Denver, Colorado, 2011

### ***Godly Play Term 4 – Nativity stories***

#### ***Themes: Getting ready for Christmas, Mystery, Contemplation***

Week 1 – Holy Family

Week 2 - “work week” – response – bring Holy Family story materials

Week 3 - Advent I

Week 4 - Advent II

Week 5 - “work week” – response – bring story materials from recent weeks

Week 6 – Advent III

Week 7 – Advent IV

Week 8 - Christmas celebration

“Mystery of Christmas” may be used with older children – combine two Advent stories to allow an extra week for this.

Reference: the complete guide to Godly Play volume 3, by Jerome W. Berryman (see above)

#### **NOTES:**

- 1) You are welcome to use this syllabus. If you do so, I strongly recommend you attend “Godly Play Core Training”. There are subtleties of gesture, values and underlying principles which are best learned experientially rather than from books.
- 2) I like to follow one style of story each term. This helps the children to spend 2 months gradually learning how to “think parabolically” or to ponder their identity as one of God’s people or to wonder – Who is Jesus?