

GOD COMMUNICATES WITH PEOPLE

That's awesome!

BIBLE STORIES

Name of story _____

Bible reference _____

Summarise the story _____

Describe the special way God communicated in the story. _____

What promise did God give in the story? _____

What did this message show about God? _____

If you had been the main character in this story how would have you reacted?

Draw a scene from the story illustrating the way God communicated.



GOD COMMUNICATES WITH PEOPLE*Think about it!***TYPES OF WRITING IN THE BIBLE****HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

Read the story of the Passover and the Israelites' escape from Egypt (Exodus 12:1-42, 13:17-14:31). You may find it helpful to read the earlier stories about Moses, Pharaoh and the plagues using a children's Bible or Bible story book.

Imagine that you are a Hebrew child. Write a diary telling of your escape and your thoughts about following Moses into the desert.

You could read further stories about the Israelites in the desert and how God continued to care for them. In your diary entries include summaries of the events which took place.

LAW

Read Exodus 20:1-17 or Deuteronomy 5:6-21 to find the chief laws (the Ten Commandments) God gave to his people.

- Read the commandments and their explanation from Luther's *Small Catechism*. Write the commandments in a positive way (what to do). Record them either on cardboard pieces made to look like flat stones or in a more contemporary way, eg computer formatted.
- Read Exodus 23:1-9 to find other laws. Write these laws in a way which would make them relevant to life in your community.

POETRY

Choose one of the following activities:

- Choose a theme of the Psalms, such as happiness, praise, trust, need. Find and record sections of a psalm which expresses the theme.
- Choose a psalm and present it in a new way, eg song, dance, drama.

Examine the form of a psalm, then write your own psalm using one of these forms:

Idea/same idea	Psalm 18:6
Idea/more of the same idea	Psalm 18:16
Idea/opposite idea	Psalm 18:27
Powerful picture words	Psalm 18

- Read Psalm 150. Illustrate the various musical instruments mentioned by the writer. Write your own psalm of praise referring to modern musical instruments.

Find and record six references to God's love and saving actions in the psalms you have explored.

GOD COMMUNICATES WITH PEOPLE*That's radical!***TYPES OF WRITING IN THE BIBLE****WISDOM**

Complete the following activities:

- Read some of the sayings in Proverbs.
- Name one of the people God used to write Proverbs.
- Choose five proverbs from Proverbs 15 or Proverbs 27. Illustrate the meaning of them in some way, such as by dramatisation, storyboard, poster set, a picture book.
- Find and record Proverbs 9:10. Why do you think that this proverb was very important to God's people in the Old Testament times and to Christians today?

Read Ecclesiastes 12:9-13. Write in your own words what you think the writer is saying. Do you agree with the writer? Give reasons.

PROPHECY

The prophet Isaiah told the people that God would send a Saviour to them. He gave some details about the Saviour God promised to send. Identify and record what Isaiah predicted about the Saviour in each of the following passages and then read and record how Jesus fulfilled the prophecies.

PROPHECY

Isaiah 7:14
Isaiah 53:3
Isaiah 53:4
Isaiah 53:5
Isaiah 53:7
Isaiah 53:9
Isaiah 53:10
Isaiah 53:12

JESUS LIFE AND TEACHINGS

Matthew 1:23
Matthew 26:38, Matthew 27:39-43
Matthew 8:16,17
1 Corinthians 15:3, 1 Peter 2:24
Matthew 27:12
1 Peter 2:22
Luke 24:6-8
Philippians 2:9-11, Luke 22:37, Luke 23:34

Write your reaction to these prophecies and the way Jesus fulfilled them.

Use a Bible or Bible handbook to find the names of other prophets and their messages.

*That's fantastic!***GOD COMMUNICATES WITH PEOPLE****TYPES OF WRITING IN THE BIBLE****PARABLES**

Work in a small group. Choose one of the parables Jesus told, such as:

a lost coin and a lost sheep (Luke 15:4-10)	a great banquet (Luke 14:15-24)	a forgiving father (Luke 15:11-32),	two builders (Matthew 7:24- 27).
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Identify what Jesus is teaching about God in the story.

Dramatise the story or present it as a mural, big book, tableau, or write a modern-day version of the parable.

LETTERS









Paul usually has four parts to his letters:

1) greeting 2) giving thanks 3) special instruction or teaching 4) final blessing.

- Identify these four parts in his letter to Philemon. Write the references for each part.
- Identify and record greetings or conclusions in four other letters written by Paul.
- Read 1 John 4:7-9 of John's letter. Write this message in your own words.

Write a letter to a friend explaining what you think are the most important messages in the Bible. This letter could be written using the format that Paul uses.

THE HISTORY OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

-  At the end of the **4th century** a Roman scholar called **Jerome** translated the Bible into Latin which was the common language of many people.
-  From the **5th century to the 15th century** (1000 years) the church and government authorities would not allow the Bible to be translated into other languages. They did not want ordinary people reading it, as they felt that only they could understand the Bible properly.
-  In the **12th century** **Peter Waldo** attempted to translate and teach the Bible in the languages spoken in France and northern Italy.
-  In the **14th century** an English priest named **John Wycliffe** translated the Bible into English. As he translated, his followers would copy the Scriptures by hand. They also travelled around England reading the Bible to the people in their own language.
-  In the **15th century** the first **printing press** was invented by Johann Gutenberg in Germany. Before the printing press was invented all books had to be copied by hand which took a very long time. The first book to be printed was the Latin Bible in 1456.
-  In the **16th century** **Martin Luther** worked on a German translation of the Bible. Luther's life was changed by reading the Bible. He wanted all people to have access to the Bible, but this was almost impossible as it was written in Latin, which was not understood by most of the people. Luther translated the New Testament from Greek into German. Luther's work made it possible for ordinary people in his country to read the Bible.
-  In **1525** **William Tyndale** completed an English translation of the New Testament.
-  In **1605** the church and government changed their attitude to translating the Bible into the language of the people, and the Authorised Version of the Bible was released with the king's approval.