Grade 4 Christian Religious Education

Terms 1, 2 and 3 - notes for 31 topics

IN EVERY TOPIC

- What you will learn and the key words.
- Short, clear notes with worked examples.
- Questions to try and a topic test, with the answers at the back.

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Strand 1.0 Creation | Term 1

1.1 Self-awareness

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

By the end of this topic you should be able to:

- mention his or her name for identification and self-awareness
- recognise his or her uniqueness as a creation of God
- acknowledge God as the creator

KEY WORDS

creation, unique, identity, creator.

1. God made me unique

Made unique by God

The Bible teaches that God made every person unique - no two people, even twins, are exactly the same in every way. Genesis 1:27 says God created human beings in His own image.

Your name, your fingerprints, your smile, and your talents all belong specially to you.

2. Acknowledging and appreciating God as our creator

Practical: a thank-you prayer

Materials: manila paper; individually.

Write or draw a simple thank-you prayer to God for making you the way you are, naming at least one quality you are thankful for.

Share your prayer with a partner if comfortable.

TRY THESE

1. What does Genesis 1:27 teach about how God made people?
2. Name one thing that is unique about you.
3. Who does the Bible say created you?
4. What quality did you thank God for in your prayer?

TOPIC TEST

T1. Why do you think God made every person different from each other, instead of making everyone the same?

T2. How might remembering that every person is God's special creation change how you treat a classmate who is different from you?

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Strand 1.0 Creation | Term 1

1.4 My Family Family members

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

By the end of this topic you should be able to:

- name family members in the nuclear and extended family
- draw a family tree to understand relationships within the family
- explain why it is important to honour parents
- respect family members for harmonious co-existence

KEY WORDS

nuclear family, extended family, family tree, honour.

1. Nuclear and extended family members

Nuclear and extended family

Your nuclear family usually includes your parents/guardians and siblings, the people you typically live with. Your extended family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

God designed people to belong to families and care for one another within them.

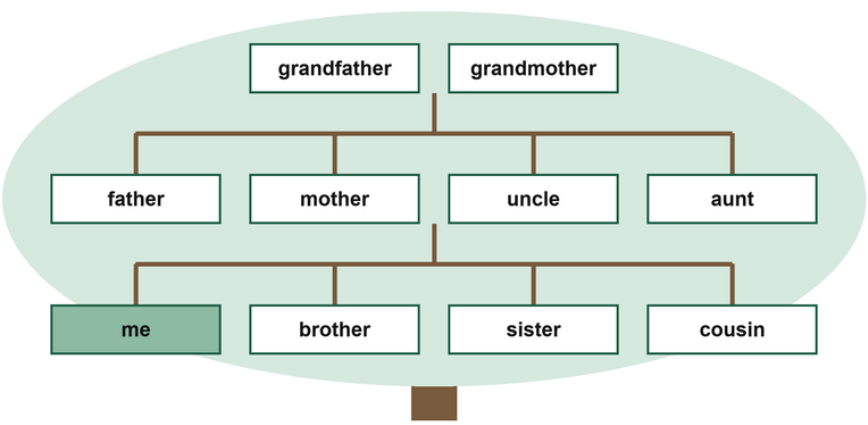
2. Drawing our family tree

Practical: a family tree

Materials: manila paper; individually.

Draw a simple family tree showing yourself, your parents/guardians, and as many other family members as you know, connecting them with lines to show the relationships.

Label each person with their relationship to you (mother, brother, grandmother, etc.).



Older family members at the top, children at the bottom.

A family tree

3. Honouring our parents

Honouring parents

The Bible teaches in Exodus 20:12 that children should honour their father and mother. Honouring parents means respecting, obeying, and caring for them, which helps the whole family live together peacefully (harmoniously).

Respecting all family members, not only parents, helps a family stay united and happy.

TRY THESE

1. Who is usually part of your nuclear family?
2. Who is usually part of your extended family?
3. Who is at the bottom (or centre) of your family tree?
4. Name one relationship you labelled on your tree.
5. Which Bible book teaches children to honour their father and mother?
6. What does honouring your parents mean?

TOPIC TEST

T1. Why might it matter to know your extended family, not just your nuclear family?

T2. Why is it important to know members of your family?

T3. How might a family where everyone respects each other feel different from one where people do not?

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Strand 1.0 Creation | Term 1

1.5 Relationships within the Family

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

By the end of this topic you should be able to:

- describe what makes family relationships healthy
- demonstrate ways of building good relationships with family members
- identify causes of conflict within families and ways to resolve them peacefully

KEY WORDS

relationship, conflict, resolve, harmony.

1. What makes a family relationship healthy

Healthy family relationships

A healthy family relationship includes love, honesty, listening to each other, forgiving mistakes, and helping one another. The Bible encourages family members to "be kind and compassionate to one another" (Ephesians 4:32). No family is perfect, but these habits help build strong, lasting relationships.

2. Building good relationships with family members

Practical: building family relationships

Materials: manila paper; individually or pairs.

List three real, simple ways you can build a better relationship with a family member: helping with a chore, listening when they talk, saying kind words, or spending time together.

Choose one to practise this week.

3. Resolving family conflict peacefully, and appreciating family as a blessing

Resolving conflict and appreciating family

Conflicts (disagreements) in families are normal - they can happen over sharing, chores, or misunderstandings. Resolving them peacefully means staying calm, listening, apologising when wrong, and forgiving.

A family, even with its disagreements, is a real blessing from God - a place of belonging, love, and support.

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TRY THESE

1. Name one thing that makes a family relationship healthy.
2. What does Ephesians 4:32 encourage family members to be towards one another?
3. Name one way to build a good relationship with a family member.
4. Which one did you choose to practise this week?
5. Give one common cause of family conflict.
6. Name one step to resolving conflict peacefully.

TOPIC TEST

T1. Why might forgiveness be an especially important habit for a healthy family, since families spend so much time together?

T2. How could you help a younger sibling or cousin build a good relationship with the rest of the family?

T3. Why might apologising, even when it feels hard, actually make a family relationship stronger afterward?

Strand 11.0 Strand 11 | Term 1

11.2 Thoughts and feelings

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

By the end of this topic you should be able to:

- identify good thoughts and feelings
- explain the importance of being joyful
- list lessons learnt from Ephesians 4:26

KEY WORDS

thoughts, feelings, joy, anger, emotion.

1. Identifying good thoughts and feelings

Thoughts and feelings

Everyone experiences many different thoughts and feelings: happiness, sadness, anger, excitement, and worry.
Good thoughts and feelings, like joy, kindness, and gratitude, help us and those around us feel positive.
The Bible encourages Christians to focus on good things - Philippians 4:8 says to think about what is true, noble, and pure.

2. The importance of being joyful

The importance of joy

Joy is a deep sense of gladness that can remain even during hard times, because it is rooted in trusting God, not just in circumstances going well. The Bible calls joy a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22).
Being joyful helps us encourage others, cope with difficulties, and reflect God's goodness in our lives.

3. Coping with anger: lessons from Ephesians 4:26

Ephesians 4:26 on anger

Ephesians 4:26 teaches "In your anger do not sin" and not to let the sun go down while still angry - meaning anger itself is not wrong, but we should not let it lead to sin, and should try to resolve it rather than holding onto it.
Healthy ways to cope with anger include taking a deep breath, talking calmly, praying, and forgiving.

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TRY THESE

1. Name one feeling you have experienced today.
2. Name two examples of "good" thoughts or feelings mentioned here.
3. How is joy different from ordinary happiness, according to this lesson?
4. What does the Bible call joy, in Galatians 5:22?
5. What does Ephesians 4:26 say about anger and sin?
6. What does the verse say about letting the sun go down?

TOPIC TEST

T1. Is it wrong to feel sad or angry sometimes? Explain.

T2. Why might someone going through a difficult time still be able to have joy, according to this lesson?

T3. How do you cope with anger or sadness?