Grade 6 Christian Religious Education

Terms 1, 2 and 3 - notes for 22 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 My purpose

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

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

- discuss how they use their God-given talents and abilities
- explain biblical teachings on the use of talents and abilities
- identify values required to nurture talents and abilities
- utilise God-given talents and abilities to serve others

KEY WORDS

talent, ability, gift, purpose, nurture, serve, Holy Spirit.

1. Our God-given talents and abilities

Talents and abilities

A talent is a natural gift for doing something well, such as singing, drawing, running or leading. An ability is a skill a person has developed, such as reading well, cooking or fixing things. Christians believe every person is created by God with special gifts and a purpose.

Everyone has talents, even if they are not yet discovered: being kind, listening well, making others laugh and caring for animals are gifts too. Each learner lists three talents or abilities they have and shares one with a partner.

2. How we use our talents and abilities

Using talents

Talents can be used at home (helping to cook, caring for younger children), at school (in the choir, sports teams, clubs, as a class prefect, helping a classmate with reading), in church (singing, reading the Bible aloud, ushering, Sunday school) and in the community (clean-ups, helping elders).

Groups list ways each member uses their talents, and role-play one talent being used to help someone.

3. Biblical teachings on talents

What the Bible teaches

Exodus 31:3 (read it in turns): God filled Bezalel with His Spirit, giving him skill, ability and understanding for every kind of craft to build the Tabernacle. Lesson: skills and talents come from God and can be used for His work.

Romans 12:4 (and the verses after it): just as one body has many parts with different jobs, Christians have different gifts. Lesson: every gift matters, and people's different gifts work together to serve God and others.

4. Values that nurture talents and abilities

Values that help talents grow

Hard work and practice, discipline (keeping to a routine), patience, humility (not boasting), responsibility, perseverance (not giving up after a mistake), respect for teachers and coaches, gratitude to God, and cooperation with others.

Groups make a poster: a tree whose roots are the values and whose fruits are the talents used well.

5. Using our talents to serve others

Serving with our gifts

Christians believe talents are given not only for ourselves but to serve others and glorify God. Examples: a good reader helps a younger learner, a singer leads worship, a strong learner helps carry things for an elder, an artist makes posters for a school event.

Each learner composes a short poem, "How I use my talents and abilities", or plans one act of service using a talent this week, then shares it.

TRY THESE

1. What is a talent?
2. Name two talents.
3. Give one way to use a talent at school.
4. Give one way to use a talent in church.
5. Whom did God give skill to in Exodus 31:3?
6. What was the skill used for?
7. Name three values that nurture talents.
8. Why is humility important for a talented person?
9. Why do Christians believe talents are given?
10. Give one example of serving others with a talent.

TOPIC TEST

T1. Ask a family member what talent they see in you.

T2. Write a short plan to use one talent this month.

T3. Find another Bible passage about gifts or talents and share its lesson.

T4. Name a person who used hard work to develop their talent, and say what they did.

T5. After a week, write how your act of service went.

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1.2 Marriage and Family

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

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

- explain the biblical teachings on marriage and family
- discuss the negative results of early marriage
- identify values needed to avoid early marriage
- desire to uphold Christian values to avoid early marriage

KEY WORDS

marriage, family, institution, early marriage, consent, responsibility.

1. Marriage and how families relate

Marriage and family

Marriage is a lifelong union between a man and a woman who agree freely to live together as husband and wife. A family is a group of people related by marriage, birth or adoption; families come in many forms (with one parent, grandparents, guardians), and every family deserves respect.

In a Christian family members are expected to love, respect, forgive and help one another, pray together, share work and care for the sick and elderly. Groups role-play a family showing these values.

2. Biblical teaching on marriage

Genesis 2:21-24

Read in pairs: God saw that it was not good for the man to be alone, made the woman as his companion, and brought her to him; the passage says a man leaves his father and mother and is united with his wife, and they become one.

Lessons Christians draw: marriage was planned by God; husband and wife are companions and partners of equal worth; marriage is a close, lasting union; marriage is for adults who are ready to leave their parents' home and start their own.

3. Negative results of early marriage

Early marriage

Early marriage is marriage of a child, that is anyone below 18 years. In Kenya it is against the law (the Children Act and the Marriage Act set 18 as the minimum age), and it is against children's rights.

Negative results: the child leaves school and loses education; health dangers from early pregnancy and childbirth; poverty and lack of skills to earn a living; the child is not ready for the responsibilities of marriage; risk of abuse; loss of childhood. Anyone at risk can tell a teacher, a chief or call the free child helpline 116.

4. Values that help avoid early marriage

Values and life skills

Values: self-respect, self-control, obedience to God and parents, responsibility, honesty and patience. Life skills: assertiveness (saying "no" firmly), decision making, setting goals (finishing school first), and talking to trusted adults.

Groups make posters with messages discouraging early marriage and showing these values, to display at the CRE corner.

TRY THESE

1. What is marriage?
2. Name three ways members of a Christian family should relate.
3. Why did God make a companion for the man?
4. What does "they become one" show about marriage?
5. What is early marriage?
6. What is the minimum age of marriage in Kenya?
7. Name three values that help young people avoid early marriage.
8. What is assertiveness?

TOPIC TEST

T1. Write a message on how families should relate with each other.

T2. Why do Christians see marriage as an important institution?

T3. Design a poster discouraging early marriage.

T4. Write a short letter encouraging a friend to stay in school.

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1.3 Leisure

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

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

- describe the biblical teaching on God's rest
- explain biblical teachings on good use of leisure
- describe how youths misuse leisure time today
- identify values needed for appropriate use of leisure time
- desire to use leisure time responsibly

KEY WORDS

leisure, rest, Sabbath, idleness, hobby, reflection journal.

1. Leisure and God's rest

Leisure and rest

Leisure is free time when a person is not working or studying, used for rest and enjoyable activities.

Genesis 2:1-3 (read it): after creating the world in six days, God rested on the seventh day, blessed it and made it holy. Lessons Christians draw: rest is part of God's plan; people need a time to rest their bodies and minds; a day of rest is also a time to worship God (the Sabbath).

2. Good use of leisure

Using leisure well

1 Timothy 5:13 (read it): Paul warns about people who are idle, going from house to house gossiping and talking about things they should not. Lesson: idle time can lead to wrong behaviour, so leisure should be used for good things.

Good leisure activities: sports and games, reading, music and art, hobbies (gardening, crafts), visiting relatives and the sick, church youth activities, helping at home, resting and sleeping well, and spending time with family.

3. How youths misuse leisure today

Misuse of leisure

Ways youths misuse leisure: too much time on phones, games or television; watching or sharing harmful content online; idleness and loitering; gossip and bullying; gambling and betting; alcohol, drugs and smoking; joining bad company or gangs; vandalism.

Results: poor health, poor school work, addiction, broken relationships, trouble with the law, and sin before God.

4. Values for responsible use of leisure

Values and a reflection journal

Values: self-control, responsibility, time management, obedience to parents, honesty, moderation (not too much of anything), and choosing good friends.

Each learner starts a reflection journal: for one week, write how leisure time was spent each day, whether it was good use, and one thing to change. The class shares (without reading private parts aloud).