

BIBLE TIMELINE ASSEMBLIES

3. ONE BIG STORY

Bible Base: The whole Bible

Key Christian Belief: The Bible tells one big story.

Aim: To help children grasp the big story of the Bible.

You will need

- The Bible Time Line PowerPoint

Introduction

Tell the children what your favourite stories were when you were growing up and ask them what some of their favourite stories are.

Point out that the Bible has lots of stories in it - adventure stories, love stories, spy stories, everyday stories about ordinary people like you and me. Tell them what your favourite Bible story is and ask if they have any favourites.

Ask the children to name four different characters whose stories appear in the Bible. Write each suggestion on a separate sheet of A4 card, bring the person who suggested it up to the front and give them the piece of card to hold up.

Now ask if anyone can put these stories in the right order - the order in which they appear in the Bible. Allow up to three volunteers to try and perhaps reward the first one to get it right.

Explain that the stories in the Bible all join together to tell one big story. Ask the children what they think this might be about. It is the story of God and His people - but it is more than that; it is the story of God's rescue plan for the world. In our assembly today we are going to think about this one big story and discover what it is all about.

Story

Go through the Bible TimeLine PowerPoint, teaching children the actions for the first eight slides - the Old Testament - and then see if they can say and do these actions with you as you go through the slides again. Repeat this for the second eight slides - the New Testament - and then put both halves together.

The Bible tells us that when God made the world it was perfect but sadly the first human beings chose to disobey God and God's world was spoiled. Right from the beginning, however, God had a plan to put everything right again. First, He chose Abraham and his family to be part of His plan. They became His people and He became their God. He gave them the job of helping the nations around them to see that He is the one true God and to get to know what He is like.

Then, when the time was right, God sent His own Son Jesus into the world and because of Him now people everywhere can be friends of this one true God. He took the blame for the wrong things we have done so that we can be forgiven. He has sent us His Spirit to help us live God's way and tell everyone the Good News. And one day He will return to take all those who trust and follow Him to live with Him in a perfect world forever.

This is the one big story of the Bible. We don't always love God and obey Him as we should. As a result the world we live in is not the perfect place God meant it be. But God sent His own son Jesus to put things right again - and the Bible tells us what He has done for us and how we can be part of God's rescue plan. This is the most important and most exciting story in the world - and Christians believe it is true!

Reflection / Prayer

Ask the children to think of or imagine a time when they were in danger and needed to be rescued. Conclude with a prayer thanking God for His rescue plan and asking Him to help the children know that they can trust Jesus to forgive them, to help them live God's way and to take them to be with Him in heaven one day.