

Introduction to Bible Lesson pack

I've tried to keep this flexible so that it can be used with any age group (Year 1 to Year 5) and fill just one lesson or be stretched.



1. Play the video

as an introduction. This includes Christians talking about why they think the Bible is so important. There are two versions: KS1 and KS2.

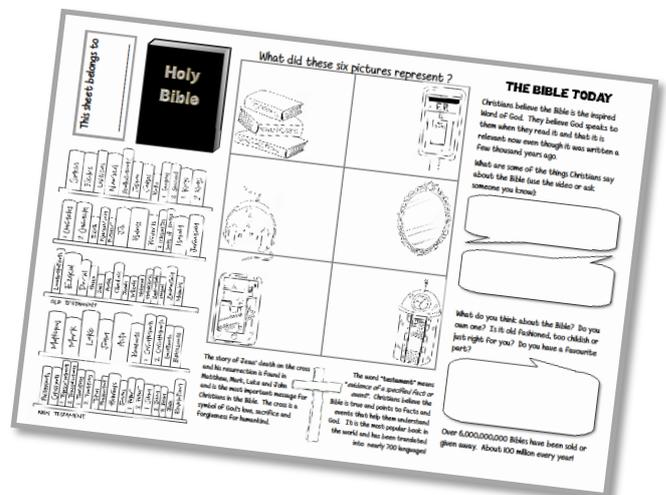
Finding the videos: I will send a link via email to whoever requested this lesson. Or you can go to YouTube, search "NISCU North Lancs", select the Purple Circle with N on it, under "Playlists" you will find Primary lessons.



2. Take the **laminated pictures** out of the Bible prop and use the notes on the back of each one. There are six, starting with a pictures of a pile of story books and ending with a time machine.

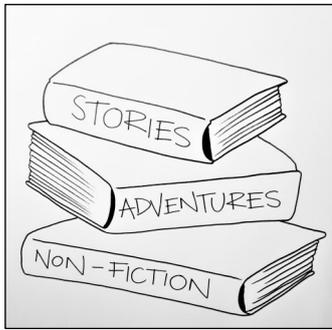
3. Photocopy the appropriate worksheets for the children to use.

You will want them to be able to see the worksheets when looking at letters in the Bible with KS2.



4. On the back of this page are very simple instructions for children to make their own **mini matchbox Bible**.





Teacher's notes

Picture 1 – STORIES

KEY STAGE I (Year 2)

Most people know there are lots of stories in the Bible. Ask the children for Bible stories they know (if you know your Bible well as a teacher then you could play skittles—children all think of a story and stand. When you say the story they are thinking of they have to sit down). However if you don't feel confident to do this then use the quiz below.

QUICK QUIZ

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1) What did God put in the sky after Noah and all the animals came out of the boat/ark? | RAINBOW |
| 2) When Jonah tried to run away from doing what was right, where did he end up? | INSIDE A BIG FISH |
| 3) How many gifts did baby Jesus get from the wise men? | THREE |
| 4) What did Zacchaeus climb up to get a better view of Jesus? | SYCAMORE TREE |
| 5) What does the Bible say happened to Jesus 3 days after he died on the cross? | CAME ALIVE AGAIN |

KEY STAGE TWO (Year 5)

Most people know there are lots of stories in the Bible. Ask the children for Bible stories they know (if you know your Bible well as a teacher then you could play skittles - children all think of a story and stand. When you say the story they are thinking of they have to sit down). However if you don't feel confident to do this then use the quiz below.

QUICK QUIZ

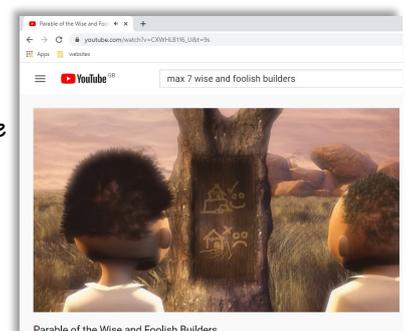
- 1) Noah and the ... (ARK)
- 2) Daniel and the ... (LIONS' DEN)
- 3) Jonah and the ... (WHALE) (Although it was a big fish in the Bible, not a whale)
- 4) The wise men bring baby Jesus gold, frankincense and ... (MYRRH)
- 5) Jesus feeds the ... (5,000) (Although he actually also fed 4,000 later on, and this number only indicated rough number of men, and does not include women and children.)

EXTRA IDEAS

- You could play the skittles game with characters rather than Bible stories, again you would need to feel confident about your own knowledge!
- There are stories within stories - as Jesus tells his parables to explain new concepts. The story of the Wise and Foolish builders is told without words in this 2 minute YouTube clip (easiest to search "Max7 The wise and foolish builders")

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXWHLBIF6_U&t=9s

- Depending on time limitations you could show them YouTube videos of Bible stories. I enjoy Saddleback Kids Bible story cartoons on YouTube (quite silly though!)







Teacher's notes

Picture 2 – SONGS

PLAY a YouTube Video of part of a Psalm

There are songs in the Bible too, although we don't have the music to go with them so we don't know the tunes. There is also quite a lot of poetry. The biggest book full of songs is called Psalms (pronounced "Sarms"). There are 150 songs in that book and many of them were written by David. The children may know something about David. He was a shepherd who played the harp, he also killed a giant man called Goliath and David later became King of the Israelites.

David's most famous Psalm is number 23 - The Lord is my Shepherd

Seeds Family Worship have a YouTube video of just one verse in Psalm 55. (Search "Seeds Family Worship Psalm 55:22")

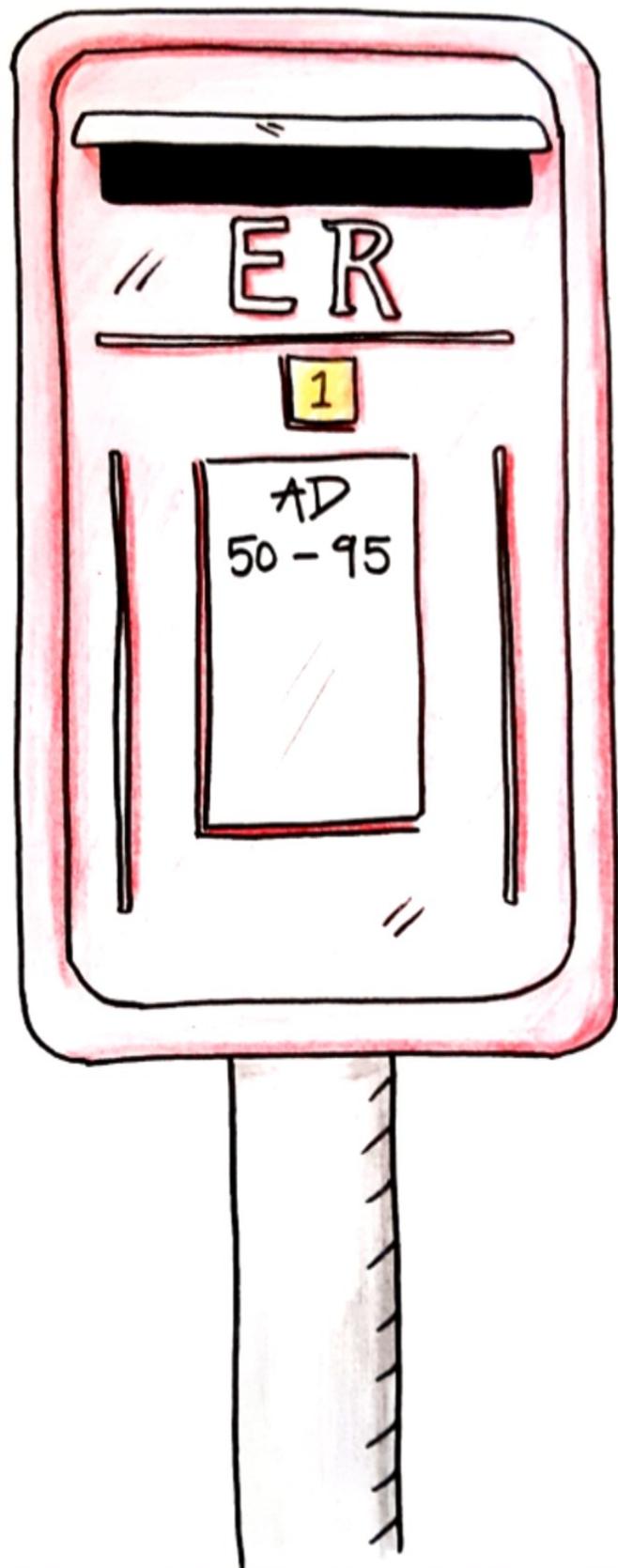
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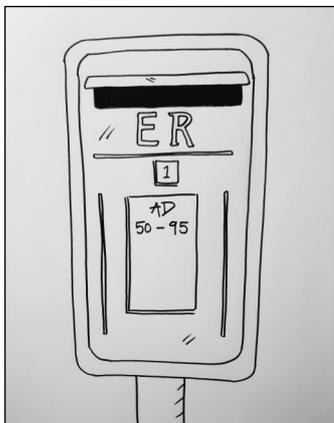


EXTRA IDEAS

If you have more time you could print off Psalm 145 in a child-friendly version (NCV or Good News) and get the children to highlight or underline all the descriptions of God they can find.

Go to Biblegateway.com to find easy access to almost all versions of the Bible and the ability to copy and paste the words that you want to use.





Teacher's notes

Picture 3 - LETTERS

KEY STAGE 1 (Year 2)

Nearly all of the New Testament is made up of letters and most of them were written by a man called Paul.

People all over the world needed to know that God had sent his Son Jesus, and Paul wanted to tell them. Paul would stay in one place for a while, tell them about Jesus, help them start a church and then move on. But after he left them he would keep on praying for them and also write them letters.

He wrote letters to people too, like a young man called Timothy. Just imagine people still reading your letters two thousand years after you wrote them! Christians find these very old letters really helpful today as they learn about God and how to be a Church.

KEY STAGE 2 (Year 5)

Nearly all of the New Testament is made up of letters and most of them were written by a man called Paul.

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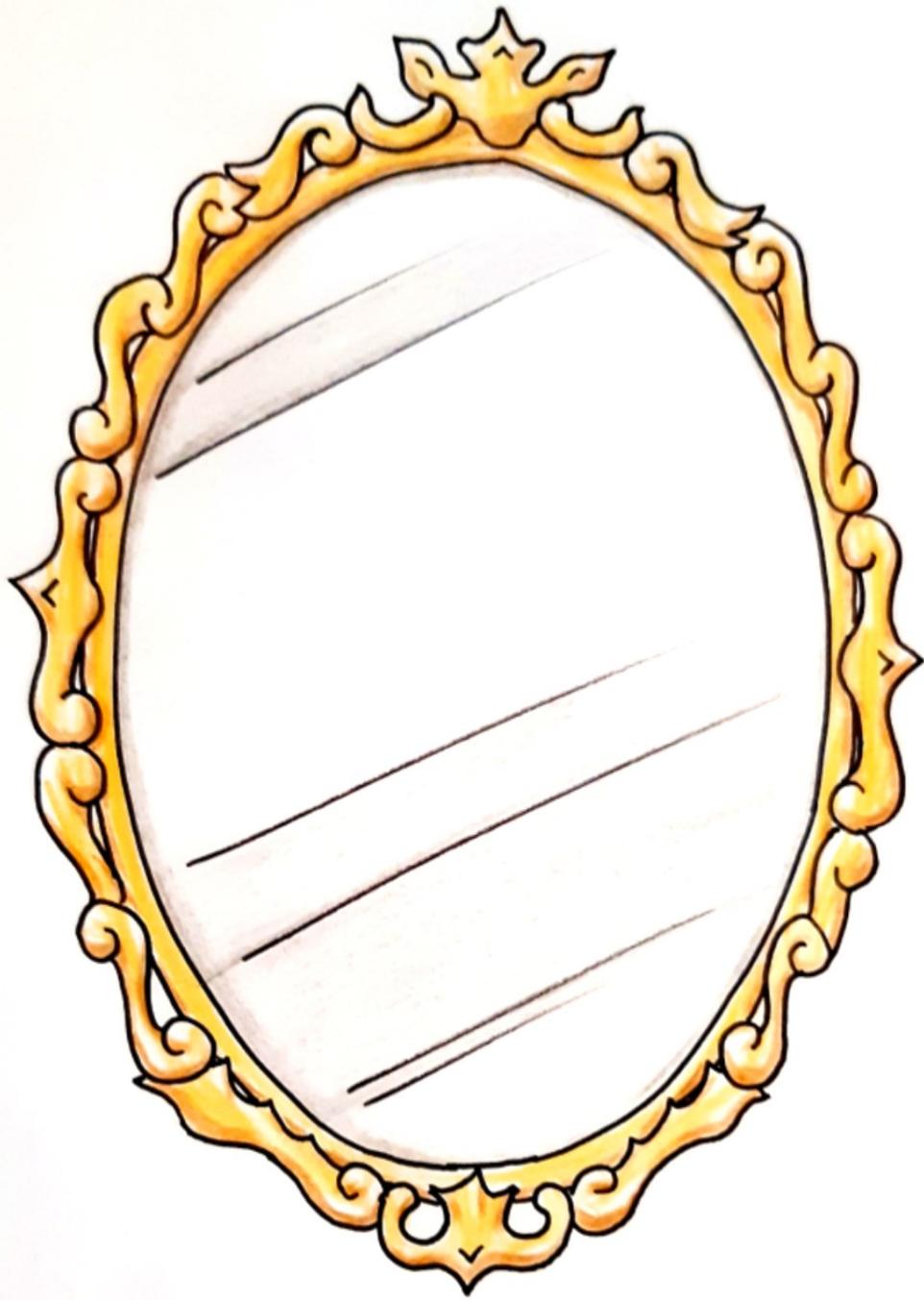
He wrote letters to people too, like a young man called Timothy. Just imagine people still reading your letters two thousand years after you wrote them! Christians find these very old letters really helpful today as they learn about God and how to be a Church.

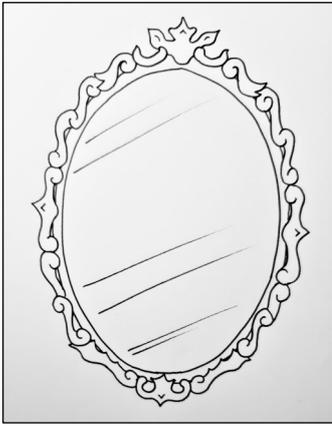
Give out the worksheets and see if the children can guess which book of the Bible is the answer to these questions:

- 1) How many letters did Paul write to Timothy? (2)
- 2) What is the name of the book which contains the letters that Paul wrote to the church in Philippi? (PHILIPPIANS)
- 3) What is the name of the book which contains letters to a church in Thessalonica? (THESSALONIANS)
- 4) Who do you think Paul was writing to in the book of Corinthians? (THE CHURCH IN CORINTH - THE PEOPLE WERE CALLED CORINTHIANS)
- 5) Which book contains a letter from James (probably Jesus' brother)? (JAMES)

Sometimes the books of the Bible are named after the people they were sent to, and sometimes they are named after the people they were sent from! Confusing.

Christians sometimes say the whole Bible is like a letter from God. Christians believe God inspired each of the writers and meant the words to be relevant today as well as in their own time.





Teacher's notes

Picture 4 – like a MIRROR

I usually use an introduction similar to this:

“Imagine I had been eating chocolate spread for breakfast this morning and it was all over my face. Now let's pretend I looked in the mirror when I got to school and was embarrassed to discover the mess was still there. What would you say if I walked away and did nothing about it?”

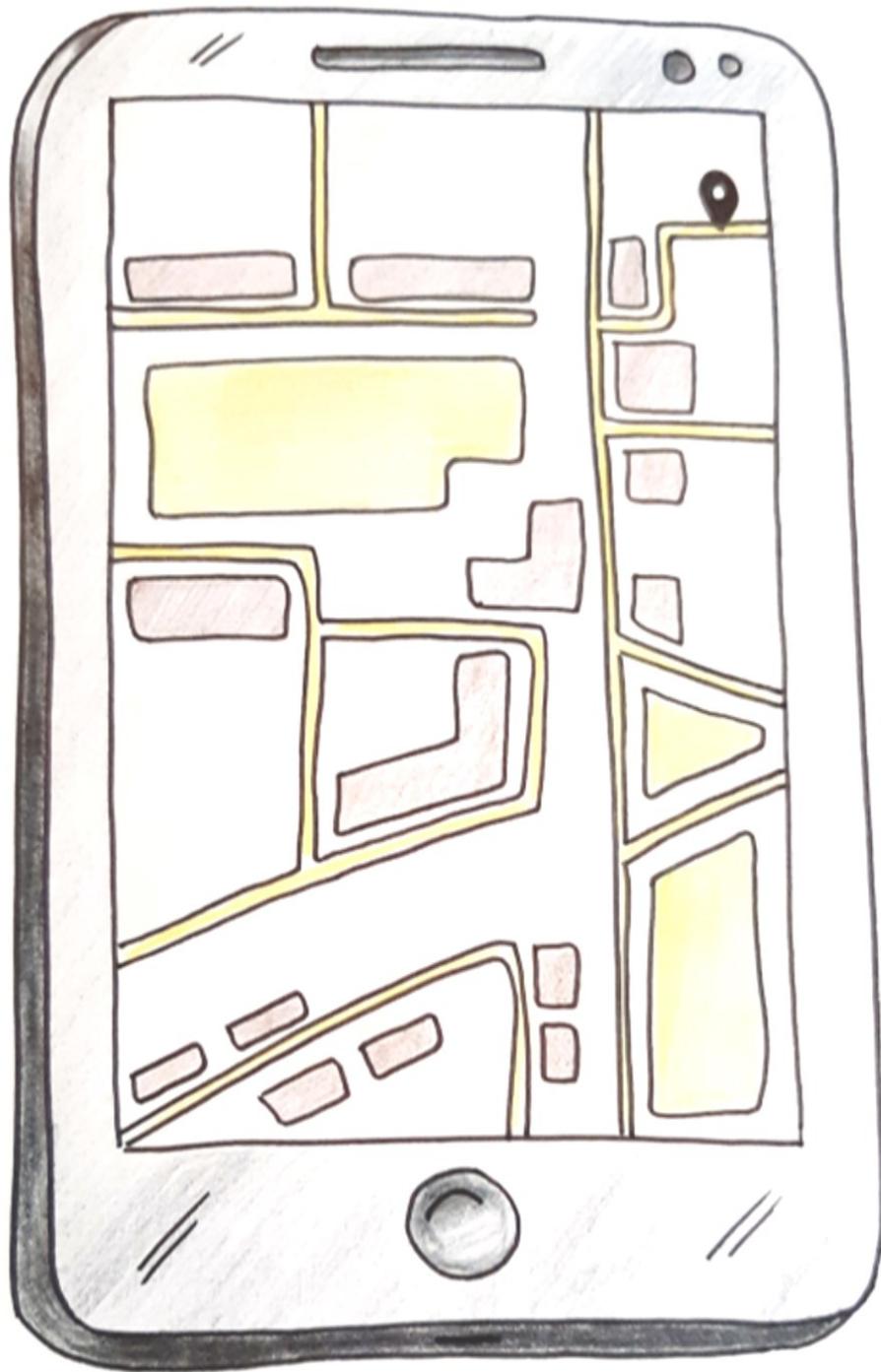
There's a verse in the Bible that says this:

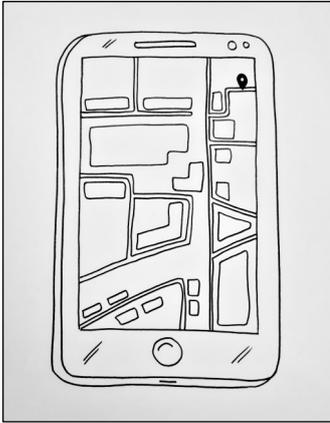
“Those who hear God's teaching and do nothing are like people who look at themselves in a mirror. They see their faces and then go away and quickly forget what they looked like.”

James chapter 1 verses 23-24 (New Century Version)

Christians believe the Bible shows them important things about themselves and how they need to change to become more like Jesus. The Bible talks a lot about forgiving people, being kind to those who aren't like us and putting other people first. It teaches us to be patient and self controlled.

The older we get the more we realise that we aren't perfect. A good experiment is to hold a mirror up to a child (they usually smile) and then an adult (they usually pull away or point out something they don't like about themselves!). I tried it in lots of classrooms.





Teacher's notes

Picture 5 – like a MAP

Psalm 119 verse 105 says

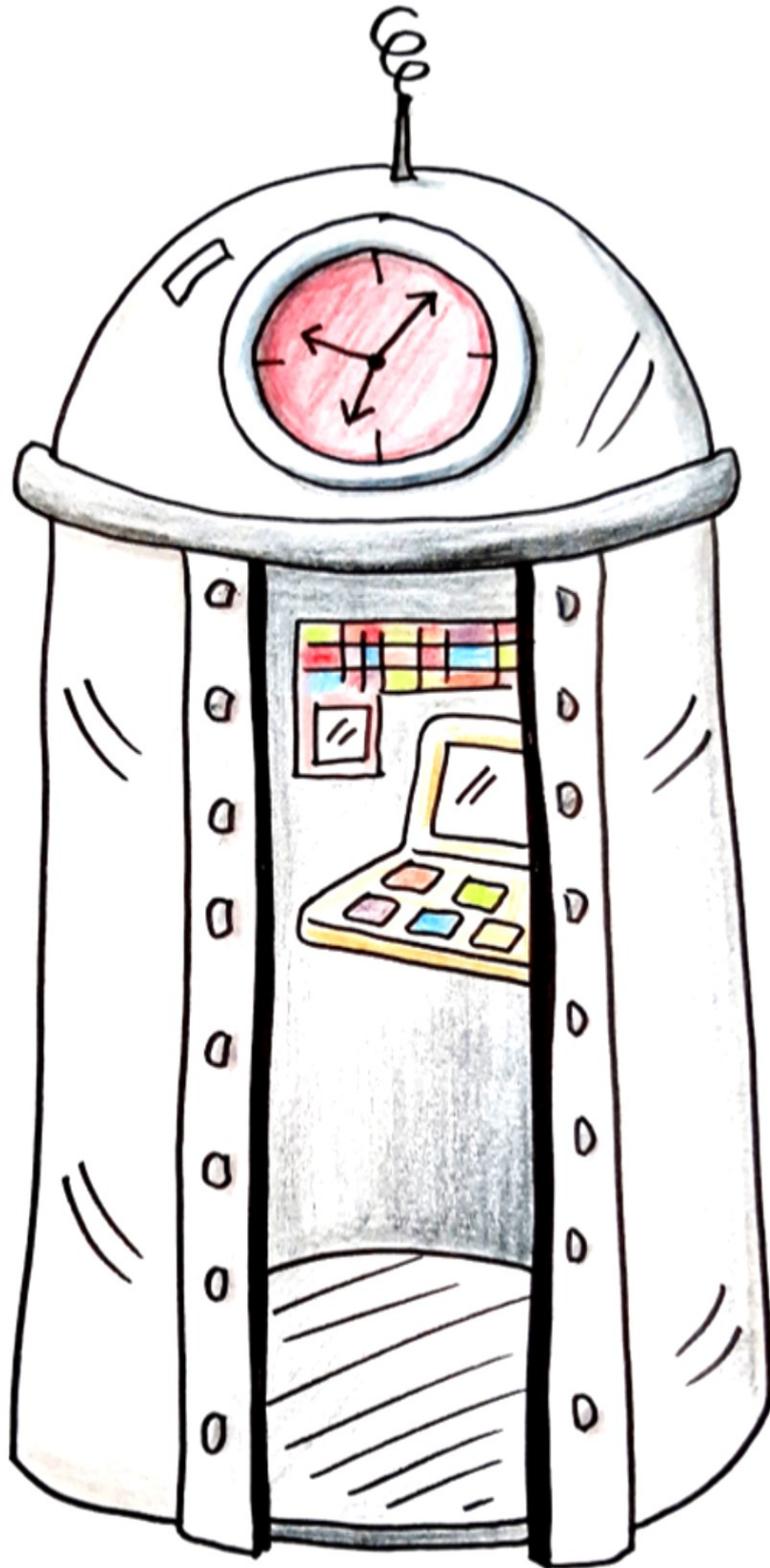
**Your word is like a lamp for my feet
and a light for my path.**

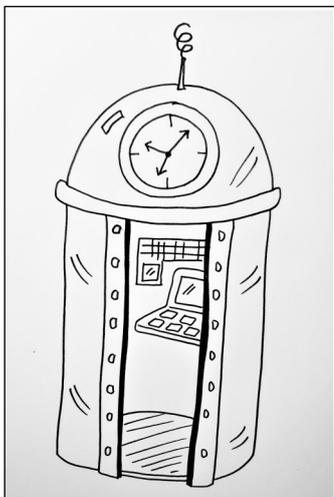
How do we know how to live? (Children will hopefully suggest parents and teachers show them). Christians believe the Bible guides them in life too. When they are confused or need to make a big decision Christians often spend time reading their Bibles and praying before taking their next step. The life of Jesus helps Christians to see what is important to God. Some Christians wear a bracelet that has the letters "WWJD" on them. It stands for "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?" This is a question Christians ask themselves when they know a choice may be difficult.

In 2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 16 it says,

All Scripture* is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right.

*Scripture is another word for Bible.





Teacher's notes

Picture 6 – like a **TIME MACHINE!**

Not only was the Bible written thousands of years ago but it also includes information about things that happened before it was written - in the past. It also tells of things that have not yet happened - in the future. It's a bit like time travel.

If you go to the very first verse in the Bible it says:

Genesis (which means beginning) chapter 1 verse 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis tells the story of God making the world. Christians believe God inspired someone to write that down, perhaps Moses, even though he wasn't there to see it happen.

If you go to the last book of the Bible, the last chapter and the penultimate verse (one before last) it says:-

Revelation chapter 22 verse 20

**Jesus, the One who says these things are true, says,
“Yes, I am coming soon.”**

Christians believe Jesus is coming back again and that this hasn't happened yet. Jesus talked about coming back to take his followers to be with him. The Bible has lots of predictions of things that hadn't happened. They are called prophecies and most of the prophecies in the Old Testament happen in the New Testament. There are still things that Christians are waiting to see happen. The most important one is that they are waiting for Jesus to return from Heaven and make everything new.