

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH –YOUTH WORK

Sunday morning teaching plan



Date: 29th December 2024

TITLE:	In the wilderness
THEME:	There are times we feel lost and isolated, stuck somewhere without a way out.
AIM:	God is with us in these times. We just have to ask for help from Him.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

It's that time of year between Christmas and New Year that always seems to be a bit flat! The excitement of Christmas is over and the festivities of New Year not yet begun. It can be a bit of a hard time for some people. It is like being lost in the wilderness, not knowing where to turn or how to escape. We can either grumble and moan about our situation or we can seek God's help.

WARM UP

Lost on a desert Island. On the slip of paper YPs write one food they can take that they have to eat every day to survive. One personal item that is meaningful to them and one book or piece of music.

Share what people put. Idea is to learn a little about each other. Leaders can play too.

MAIN TEACHING

There are times when we will be "in the wilderness". That is ... feeling lost and alone, seemingly hopeless with no obvious way of escape. We will all be there at some time in our life. It may be at school, struggling with work or friends. It may be at home, an argument with siblings or parents. For some it is even worse...

Activity 1. What situations can you think of where people may feel alone or lost?

READ Exodus 14:1-16. The Israelites have escaped Egypt and are now being chased by the Egyptian army... they are hemmed in!

- 1.What do the Israelites do?
- 2.What does Moses do?
- 3.Was God with them all the time?
- 4.Why did the people focus on the problem not God?

Key teaching point. We always have a choice. We can complain about our situation or we can speak to God about it. We can try and rely on our own solutions or we can ask God for help. God walks with us in our troubled times. If we ask Him he will provide the strength for us to persevere, and sometimes even escape!

Activity 2 watch the clip of the temptations of Jesus

What did Jesus do in order not to give in when He was alone, in distress and discomfort?

Look up Matthew 4:1-11. in pairs or threes answer these questions

- 1.What do we need as well as bread to survive?
- 2.What should we do instead of 'testing' God? Why?
- 3.Why is it wrong to put other things before God?

Key teaching point When we are feeling isolated and alone, that is the time we get tempted to do things we would not normally do. This is when Satan gets to work. The Bible is our weapon against Satan. We can use it to defend ourselves from attack and also go on the attack. It is important to know scripture verses.

God's word feeds us like bread/food does. It nourishes us and helps us grow spiritually. The more we consume the Bible the healthier we get!

God wants us to trust Him. He has proved His faithfulness in the Bible. We should not test Him but trust Him!

If we begin to make other things in our life more important than God, then that is idolatry. It is wrong. God deserves first place because He made us and rescued us from our sin. If we put God first, He will bring blessing to us. That is what He has promised.

Activity 3. Try learning one or both of these verses.

1Corinthians 10:13 , Psalm 46:10 (on the screen)

Activity 4.

What do you do when you are bored? This is the time we sometimes feel isolated or alone and temptation strikes! How can we avoid temptation ? **Explore Acts 2:42**

TAKEAWAY

Bible memory verse cards to put in a wallet or purse or stick on a noticeboard

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES/ RESOURCES



Lost on a desert Island

One food item.....

One personal item.....

One book/ album



Lost on a desert Island

One food item.....

One personal item.....

One book/ album



Lost on a desert Island

One food item.....

One personal item.....

One book/ album

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

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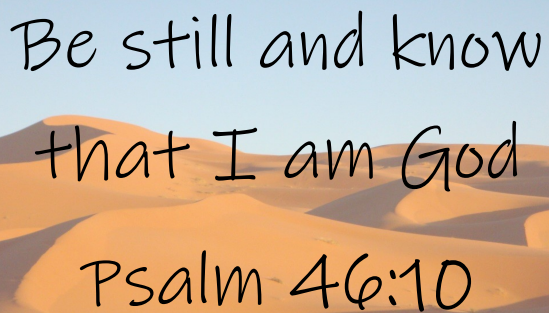
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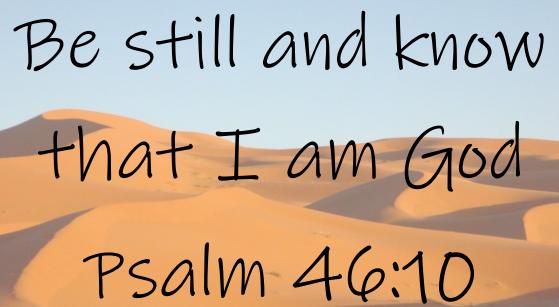
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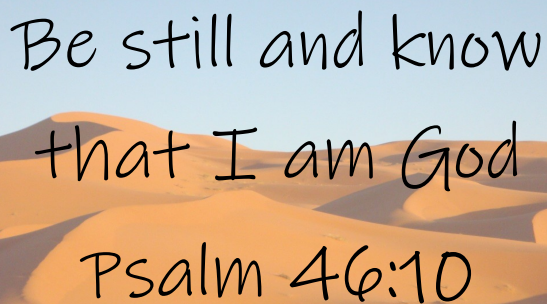
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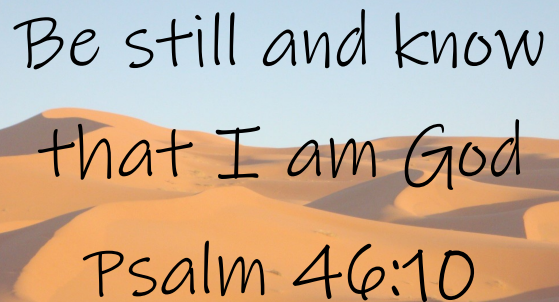
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that I am God
Psalm 46:10



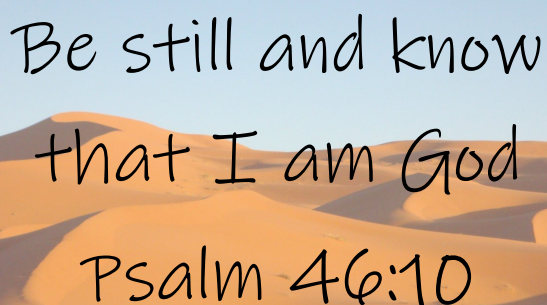
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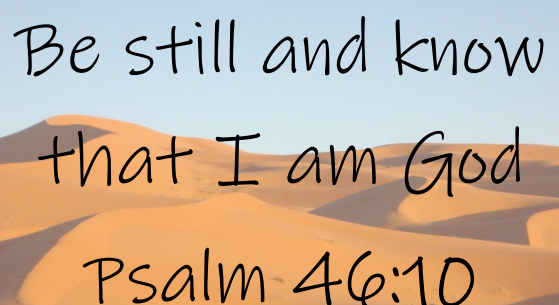
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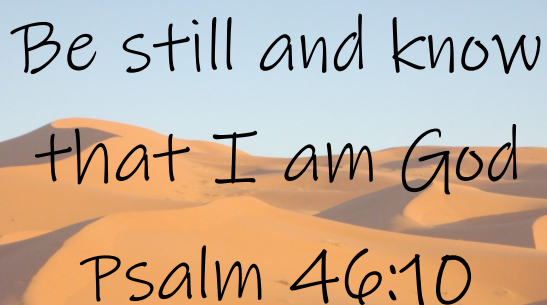
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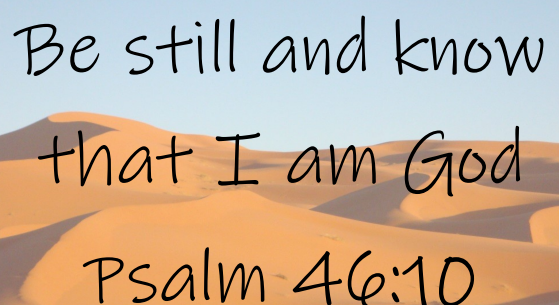
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