

TABLE TALK



WEEK ELEVEN

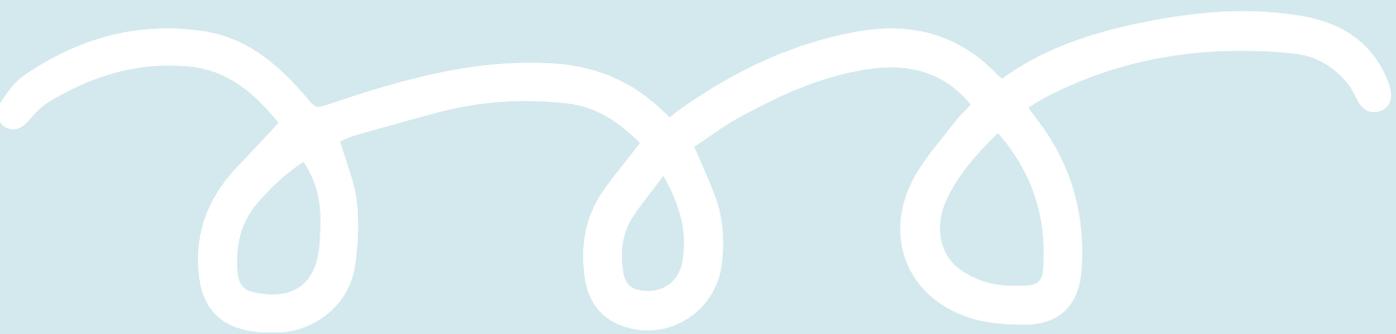
MON: ALL ABOUT GOD

TUES: JESUS TAUGHT US

WED: PEOPLE

THURS: THANKSGIVING

FRI: THE WORLD



MONDAY : ALL ABOUT GOD



“For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God?” 2 Samuel 22:32

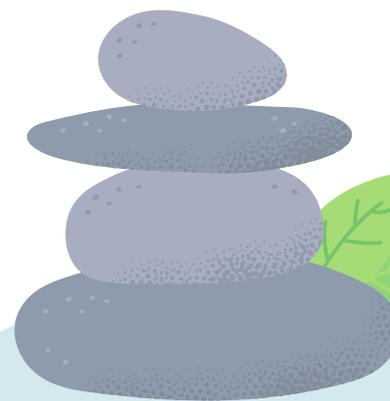
This is David talking. How does he describe God?

What are rocks like? There are lots of different types of rocks, but all rocks are hard, strong and unchangeable. Big rocks can even become shelters which protect people.

What do you think it means if God is our rock? What is God like?

God is strong, unshaking, a firm foundation and he will protect us. Can you think of different actions to help you remember this about God?

David also reminds us that no one else is like this – only God.



PRAY

We praise you God because you are our rock. Thank you that you are unchangeable, unshakable and strong. Thank you for protecting us. Help us to remember that no one else is like you!

TUESDAY : JESUS TAUGHT US



Every year Jewish people celebrate a festival called the Festival of the Tabernacle. During this time, the people remembered how God had led them out of Egypt and guided them as a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire during the night. Part of the festival involved lighting lots of candles of all different shapes and sizes until the whole city was lit up with thousands of little lights. Can you imagine how pretty it would have looked?

It was during this festival that Jesus made his second 'I AM' statement. Who does Jesus say he is in this verse?

“Later, Jesus talked to the people again. He said, “I am the light of the world. The person who follows me will never live in darkness. He will have the light that gives life.” – John 8:12

What do you think Jesus means when he says he is the light of the world?

Jesus is saying that he is the same light that led the people out of darkness in Egypt – he is God. What darkness does Jesus led us away from if we follow him?

The darkness we face is not the darkness that comes when the sun goes down. The darkness that Jesus lights up and leads us out of is our own sin.

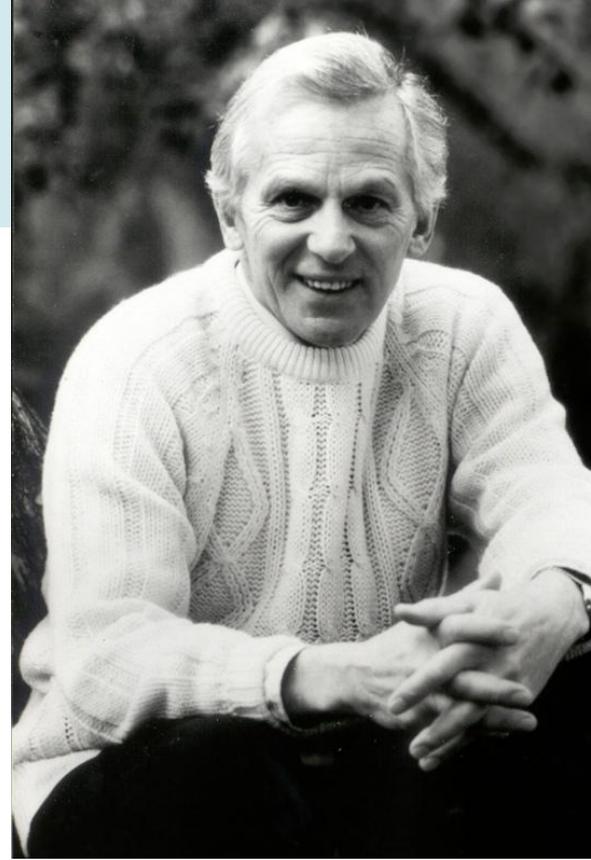
If we don't follow Jesus and instead choose to sin – it's like we're living in a dark room and we can't see where we are going.

But, if we follow Jesus, it's like the light has been turned on and the darkness disappears! Then we get to live in Jesus' light, away from the darkness of sin and close to God.

WEDNESDAY : PEOPLE

On Wednesday's we learn about different people who God used at different points in history. Today we are learning about a man called Anne van der Bijl, who we know in the UK as Brother Andrew.

Brother Andrew is from Holland and was alive when lots of Eastern Europe was part of the Soviet Union. Under the Soviet Union all religion was banned, including Christianity. Christians were persecuted and imprisoned. Lots of Christians kept their faith secret and they formed underground' or hidden churches so they could practice their faith without getting caught.



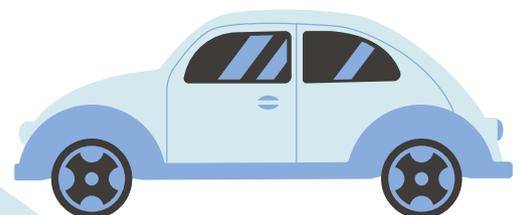
In 1955, Brother Andrew decided to visit one of these countries, Poland, to see how his brothers and sisters were doing. After seeing how difficult it was to be a Christian in Poland, and how it was nearly impossible for them to tell others about Jesus – Brother Andrew felt God calling him to go into these Soviet Union countries.

Over the next 20 years, Brother Andrew went to different countries where it was illegal to be a Christian. He used his car to smuggle Bibles into these countries to help strengthen the churches there. This gave him the nickname 'God's Smuggler'. Sometimes Brother Andrew's car would be pulled over. If he was caught smuggling Bible's, he would have been in lots of trouble. But Brother Andrew never hid the Bible's that where in his car – he trusted God to protect him and knew that he would only get arrested if it was part of God's plan for him.

Brother Andrew was very brave. He was also willing to sacrifice his own comfort and freedom to help those who were being persecuted for their faith. God might never call us to do something this scary, but just like Brother Andrew, we should do what God calls us to do and trust in God's plan for our life.

LETS THINK

Are there times when you find it scary to tell other people about Jesus? What can you remember about God which might help you be less scared?



THURSDAY : THANKSGIVING

“Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don’t be afraid. The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go.” – Joshua 1:9

Do you remember when we looked at Joshua in the Bible? Joshua was about to go into Canaan – the promised land. Joshua didn’t know what to expect and he could have got really scared and afraid. But what did God command him to be?
(Strong and brave!)

Look at the last line of the verse - why didn’t Joshua need to be scared? (Because God was going to be with him!)

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” -
Matthew 28:20

Do you remember this memory verse? Jesus promises to be with us just like God promised to be with Joshua. So, just like Joshua, we don’t need to be scared or afraid.

Let’s thank God because he is always with us. Thank God that we don’t have to be scared and afraid, instead we can trust him.

FRIDAY : THE WORLD

“*First, I tell you to pray for all people. Ask God for the things people need, and be thankful to him. - 1 Timothy 2:1*”

On Friday's we learn and pray for people in different parts of the world. Across the world there are lots of people who have to leave their homes to live in different countries. Some have to leave because of wars, natural disasters, famine and drought, or because it's not safe for them to stay in their country anymore. These people are called refugees because they look for refuge (protection) in other countries.

Right now, nearly 80 million people have been forced to leave their homes. Around 26 million of these people have become refugees. Nearly half of the world refugees are children.

Being a refugee can be very hard and scary. You can feel very homesick and miss your family a lot. It can be hard to find a new place to live which is safe. For children, it can be really hard to have friends and go to school.

PRAY

Dear God, Thank you that you know every refugee by name. They are made in your image and you love them.

Please be with them right now. Protect them, keep them safe, and help them find a safe place to live. All of this seems impossible to us, but you have the power to do all of this God. Amen.



This is the flag of the Refugee Nation. It was designed by Yara Said, a Syrian refugee who found a safe home in Amsterdam.