

TABLE TALK



WEEK THIRTEEN

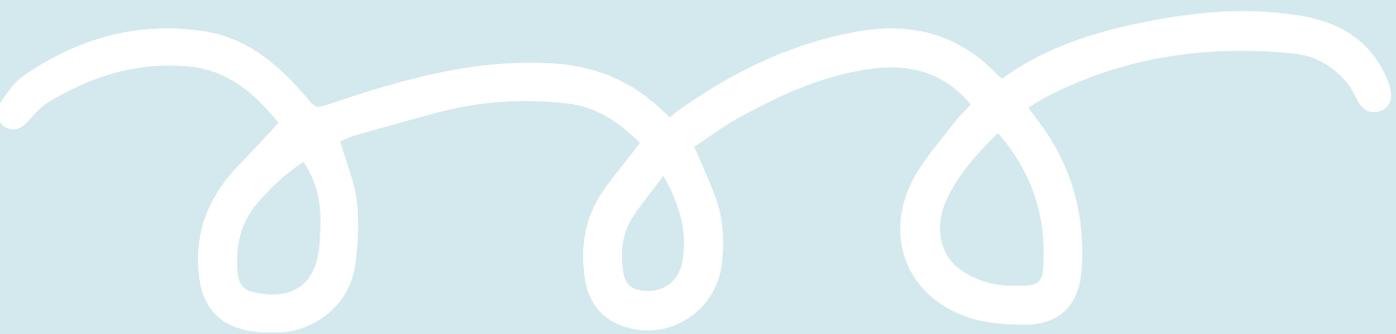
MON: ALL ABOUT GOD

TUES: JESUS TAUGHT US

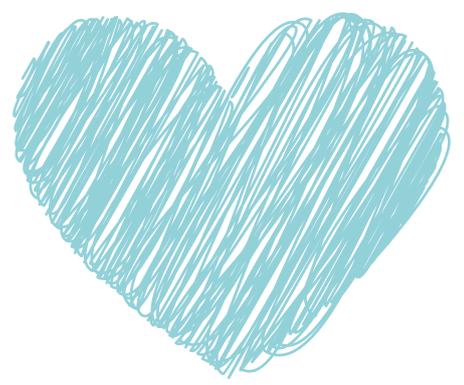
WED: PEOPLE

THURS: THANKSGIVING

FRI: THE WORLD



MONDAY : ALL ABOUT GOD



What do you love? Can you name some of the different things and people you love?

Can you think of different ways people show love? How does God show his love for us?

God loves us so much that he sent his son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross so that we can be forgiven for our sins and be friends with God. Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to die for us. Jesus didn't selfishly keep himself away, but he sacrificed Himself and put our need for salvation above everything else. This is the greatest example of love *ever!*

“And so we know the love that God has for us, and we trust that love. God is love.” – 1 John 4:16

How does this Bible verse describe God?

God loves us very much and we can trust that love. But God doesn't just love things – God IS love!

PRAY

Dear God, thank you for loving us so much that you sent Jesus. Thank you that you don't just love us, but that you are love! Help us to understand your love more and more every day. Help us to love you more and more as we grow up!

TUESDAY : JESUS TAUGHT US



On Tuesday's we've been learning about the 'I AM' sayings of Jesus. This week we're looking at number 4 – can you find the 'I am saying' in the verses below?

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep.” – John 10:11

What does a shepherd do? What is their job?

Shepherds look after sheep. Sheep are very silly animals sometimes, so a shepherd helps to keep them safe, helps them to find food to eat and water to drink, and guides them to safe places for them to sleep.

Shepherds also have to protect their sheep from danger! For example, if a wolf was coming to try and hurt one of the sheep, the shepherd would fight the wolf to keep the sheep safe. Like Jesus said – a good shepherd would be willing to die in order to keep his sheep safe.

So, why do you think Jesus calls himself our Good Shepherd?

Jesus is our Good Shepherd because when we were in danger and we were going to face the punishment for our sin, Jesus stepped in, just like a shepherd protecting his sheep. Jesus died on the cross in our place so that now we can be forgiven for our sins. Jesus gave up his life so that we could have life to the full now and have eternal life later on.

What noise does a sheep make?



WEDNESDAY : PEOPLE

=On Wednesday's we learn about different people from the past who loved God and lived for him. Today we are going to learn about a man called Francis who was born in Italy in 1181. Francis grew up in a wealthy family and when he was a young man he spent lots of his time sending that money on silly things. For Francis, his top priority was having fun.



Francis grew up learning about God but he didn't really pay attention until he was older. After fighting in a scary war, Francis decided to learn more about God. To help him do this, Francis went on a very long journey where he would spend all of his time walking, reading his Bible and praying to God.

While he was on this journey, Francis met lots of people who were very poor. Francis realised that he had always taken his wealth for granted and didn't really appreciate it. He also realised that spending money had taken a bigger place in his heart than God had. He knew that had to change.

After spending a lot of time thinking about it, Francis decided to give up all of his wealth. He gave some of it to people he met, some to churches who needed money and the rest he gave back to his parents. Then, Francis spent the rest of his life living without much money, learning about God, helping people who were poor and helping them learn about God too!

LETS THINK

Francis realised that money had become an idol for him. It was something which was taking a bigger place in his heart than God was. Francis knew this was a bad thing and so he made a very big change to stop it.

Can you think of anything you love which might be taking some of your love and time away from God? What could you do to change that?

FUN FACT!

Francis directed the first nativity play!

THURSDAY : THANKSGIVING

“Let them give thanks
to the Lord for his love
and for the
miracles he does for
people.

He satisfies the thirsty.
He fills up the hungry.”
– Psalm 107:8-9

On Thursday’s give thanks to God for different things!

Because he loves us, God does lots of different things for us every day. Sometimes these can be big miraculous things, and other times they are simple things that we don’t even think about – like giving us food to eat and water to drink.

What things has God done for you today that you want to thank him for?

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 we learn and pray for our brothers and sisters in different countries across the world. Here in Wales we can follow Jesus without having to worry about getting into trouble, but this is not the same everywhere. Today we are going to be learning about Turkey.

Christians only make up 0.2 % of the population of Turkey. In fact, lots of Christians in Turkey have moved there from different countries and some of them are refugees. Islam is the most popular religion in Turkey and Christians can be disliked or viewed with suspicion.

Everyone in Turkey had an ID card. This tells people lots of information about who you are, how old you are and where you live. They also record your religion. This means that Christians are easily identified. ID cards are used in lots of different situations, like when you are applying for jobs, going to school or need help from the government. Because of this, Christians can be discriminated against easily. People can say 'no' to them just because their ID card says they follow Jesus. This means that lots of Christians have to keep their faith a secret.

PRAY

Lord Jesus, thank You for the faith and courage of our sisters and brothers in Turkey. Protect those who must hide their faith from their families, and strengthen believers who are discriminated against in the workplace. Remind them of Your love and the value that they hold in Your eyes.

