

# TABLE TALK



WEEK SIXTEEN

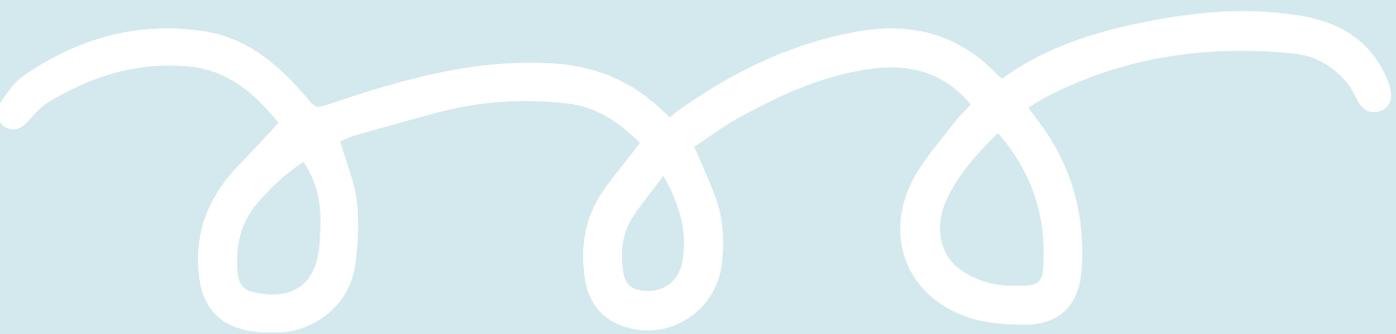
MON: ALL ABOUT GOD

TUES: JESUS TAUGHT US

WED: PEOPLE

THURS: THANKSGIVING

FRI: THE WORLD



# MONDAY : ALL ABOUT GOD

On Mondays we've been learning about God – can you remember any of the things we've learnt about God?

Can you point out the words used in this Psalm to describe God?

“But You, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.” Psalm 86:15

We're going to be looking at the first – God is compassionate!  
What does it mean to be compassionate?

We can think of being compassionate as being deeply concerned for others and wanting to meet their needs. Can you think of times God showed compassion to people in the Bible?

We can read of lots of times in the Bible where God showed compassion, but the greatest example of God's compassion is his Son Jesus.

All humans have wandered away from God and we needed a Saviour. God had compassion on us and sent his son Jesus to take the punishment for our sins. Through his Son, God took care of our greatest need and made a way for us to come to him!

Spend some time praying to God.

Let's praise him for his compassion and thank him for sending his Son, Jesus our Saviour!

# TUESDAY : JESUS TAUGHT US

On Tuesday's we've been learning about the 7 'I AM' sayings of Jesus. Today we're looking at the last one! Can you remember the first 6?

Can you spot the I Am statement in today's Bible verse?

"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If a person remains in me and I remain in him, then he produces much fruit. But without me he can do nothing." John  
15:5

Jesus says that he is the vine. What vine? What even is a vine?? A vine is just a type of plant with lots of branches coming off of it. If you chop off the branches, they'll die. But if they stay attached to the vine, then they'll be cared for and will keep growing and growing!

But what does Jesus mean?

Jesus is warning us that, just like the branches, we need to stay connected to our vine – him!

If we stay connected to Jesus, then he'll look after us and we'll keep growing and growing in our faith. But if we decide to stop following Jesus, then slowly we'll wither away and die.

So, as we grow up we need to stay close to Jesus, listening to his teachings and obeying his commands. Then, our faith will stay healthy and we'll keep growing closer and closer to him!



# WEDNESDAY : PEOPLE



On Wednesday's we're learning about different people from history who followed Jesus. This month is Black History Month where people across the world learn about and celebrate Black people in history, and that's exactly what we'll be doing this October too!

This is Maria Stewart who was born in America in 1803. Even though both of her parents were free, where Maria lived lots of other Black people were slaves, forced to work for no money. In fact, slavery was only made illegal in America in 1860 – that's only 160 years ago!

When Maria was 5 both of her parents died, and she was left penniless without anybody to look after her. Maria found a job working as a servant in the home of a local minister. Maria did all sorts of jobs in the house from Monday to Saturday, but on Sunday she was free to go to Church and Sunday School. There she heard about Jesus and was taught how to read and write.

When she was 23 Maria married James W. Stewart, but James died only 3 years later, and Maria was once again penniless and alone. It was shortly after this that Maria decided to give her life to Jesus and saw that the best way she could serve him was by fighting for the end of slavery.

Maria used her education to start publishing essays in magazines. She wrote about the evil of slavery, as well as the importance of equal rights for women and free education for everyone. Later, Maria started speaking in public, encouraging people to give their lives to Jesus, and protect his people by ending slavery. Maria was the first woman in America to give public lectures like these!

Because women didn't do things like that back then, Maria soon had to stop because different men got angry with her. But Maria didn't let that stop her! Instead, Maria spent the rest of her life publishing her talks and working at different schools teaching Black children with both free and enslaved parents. When slavery was made illegal in 1860, Maria worked with different families who used to be slaves, helping them set up their lives as free people. Maria died in 1879, aged 76.

Maria gave her life to Jesus and immediately looked for ways she could serve him and his people. Then she used everything she had – her education, time and money – to show those people his love and tell them about him.

Can you think of ways you can show other people Jesus' love?

# THURSDAY : THANKSGIVING

Last Sunday we had our Harvest Thanksgiving Service where we thank God for the harvest and everything in his creation.

Can you find Psalm 104 in your Bible or on a computer? This is the Psalm we looked at on Sunday. Can you spot some of the things God has made which the author thanks him for?

The first and last lines of the Psalm are this:

“My whole being,  
praise the Lord.  
Praise the Lord.”

God is so incredible awesome and powerful. We should praise him and thank him for his creation. But we shouldn't just praise him a little bit, for only a small amount of time or only with a small amount of effort – our whole being should praise him!

Spend some time in prayer praising God for his creation and all that he has given us!

# 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 are praying for the world around us and our brothers and sisters in different countries. Today we are going to be learning about a country called Syria. What do you know about Syria?

4% of people living in Syria are Christians. Since 2011 Syria has been in the middle of a civil war. The violence from this has made parts of Syria dangerous to live in and made it harder to be a Christian in Syria.

If someone decides to follow Jesus when the rest of their family are Muslim, they face being cut off from their family. Many of them will lose their friends, homes and jobs when they decide to follow Jesus. A Christian in Syria is likely to also face violence. Christians can be attacked or kidnapped because of their beliefs, especially if they refuse to give up their faith in Jesus.

Covid-19 has made things worse for Christians in Syria. Lots of people have now lost their jobs and struggle to find food. When food is sent to different areas to be given out to these people, Christians are put at the back of the line so that when they eventually get to the front, there is no food left for them!

But God is still at work in Syria and he is sending people there to help those who trust in him.

Let's pray for the country of Syria, for our brothers and sisters in Syria, as well as the people going into Syria to help them.

## PRAY

Lord God, please bring peace and protection to Syria. We pray for an end to conflict there, and safety for Your children. Please strengthen the local church to be a light in the darkness and hope for the Middle East.

