

Bible Stories and Christian Values

Old Testament

Story	Bible Reference	Values	Notes
In the beginning			
Creation	Genesis 1-2	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	God made the world in 6 days and rested on the seventh day. God saw that the creation was good. God made people to look after his creation
The Garden of Eden	Genesis 2-3	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	God made a perfect world, Eve was tempted by the serpent, but Adam and Eve were curious and so ate the forbidden fruit and fear and sin entered the world
Cain and Abel	Genesis 4	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Cain's offering is rejected by God because he did not offer his best. Abel's offering was accepted by God, Cain was jealous of Able and killed him. God banishes Cain
Noah's Ark	Genesis 6-7	Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	In a sinful world Noah and his family are blessed by God and instructed to build an ark to save all the animals from the punishment God is about the deliver
The Flood	Genesis 7-9	Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	It rains for 40 days and nights, everything is destroyed expect for the ark. Eventually the waters subside, and the land is dry, Noah built an altar to worship God and God sent the rainbow as a sign that he would never destroy the world again.
The Tower of Babel	Genesis 11	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	The tower and city were built out of vanity, God was cross; so he confused their speech, introducing different languages. This scattered the people across the world.
The Patriarchs			
Abram's Journey	Genesis 11-13, 15	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	Abram was a rich elderly man with no children by his wife. God tells him to leave his home and go to the land of Canaan. God promised to bless him, and his people will be a great nation.

			So they settled in Canaan, from the River of Egypt (the Nile) to the great River Euphrates. Abram made a sacrifice to God and God made a covenant with Abram to protect him and his descendants will be many.
Abram, Sarai and Hagar	Genesis 16-18	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	Sarai cannot have children, so she encourages Abram to have a child with their servant Hagar. When Hagar become pregnant, she is patronising to Sarai, Sarai responds by being harsh and Hagar runs away. In the wilderness an Angel tells Hagar to return and be good to Sarai. On her return she has a baby boy, Abram calls him Ishmael which means 'God hears'. God commands that all baby boys are to be circumcised to show that they are one of God's chosen people. And Promises Abram that Sarai will have a son. He also renames Abram – Abraham.
Sodom and Gomorrah	Genesis 18-19	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	The towns of Sodom and Gomorrah were in Abraham's nephew's part of Canaan and the people had become unruly and sinful. Two angels visited Lot to warn him to leave the city and to not look back, a crowd gathered and threatened Lot. But the angels protected him, he and his wife and daughters fled the city, as they did so the city was destroyed, Lot's wife looked back and was turned to a pillar of stone.
Abraham's two sons	Genesis 21	Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	Sarai (renamed Sarah) gave birth at a great age to a son, Abraham instructed by God called him Isaac. Abraham loved his sons but there was tension between the siblings, Sarah wanted to protect Isaac, so she sent Hagar and Ishmael away, in the desert they were hungry and thirsty, an Angel appeared and showed Hagar a spring. She settled in the desert, married and lived a full life.

The sacrifice of Isaac	Genesis 22	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	God spoke to Abraham to test his faith, ‘take your son to Moriah and offer him as a sacrifice. Abraham obeyed God even though he loved his son. God saw this and at the last minute an angel stopped Abraham and they offered a ram instead.
Isaac and Rebekah	Genesis 24	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	Sarah died and Abraham grew older, he wanted his son Isaac to marry someone from their homeland, so he sent a servant to find Isaac a bride. The servant prayed that one of the women collecting water at the well would offer him water and be the one to marry Isaac. Rebekah offered the servant water and agreed to travel to Canaan to marry Isaac. When they met they fell in love.
Esau and Jacob	Genesis 25, 27	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	Isaac favoured Esau over Jacob, although they were twins. Esau was the first born, he was strong and covered in hair. Jacob was sensitive and cunning and Rebekah, his mother’s favourite. Isaac was old and dying, he asked Esau to kill a deer to make his favourite meal so he could taste it and bless Esau before he died. Rebekah overheard, so she made a meal from goat, used the skin to cover Jacob who pretended to be Esau. Isaac was fooled and blessed Jacob instead. Esau was angry when he found out and threatened to kill Jacob. So, Jacob fled.
Jacob’s Ladder	Genesis 28	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	On his way to safety, Jacob stopped to rest he used a large stone as a pillow. He dreamt of a stairway reaching up to heaven with angels moving up and down, he saw God at the top saying ‘I am the God of Abraham and of your father Isaac, I give you this land for you and your descendants. When Jacob woke, he anointed the stone and called the place Bethel meaning house of God.
Jacob and Rachel	Genesis 29-30	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	Jacob travelled on to Haran where his uncle lived. He saw a well where the shepherds brought the sheep to drink. It was covered in a large stone. When Rachel his uncle’s daughter, brought her sheep to drink Jacob helped to lift the stone from the well. He then said he was her cousin, they

		Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences.	embraced and kissed. Then Rachel took him to see her father. He stayed for one month working hard for his uncle.
Jacob's wedding	Genesis 29-30	Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	After a month his uncle offered to pay him whatever he wanted, Jacob answered that he would work for no money if after 7 years he could marry Rachel. After 7 years there was a great wedding celebration, but Jacob was tricked into marrying Leah, Rachel's plain older sister. Jacob was angry but it was agreed with his uncle, that for 7 more years labour Jacob could marry Rachel as well. Leah bore Jacob many children, 6 sons and a daughter. Eventually Rachel bore Jacob a son, Joseph.
Jacob's return	Genesis 32-33	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start.	After Joseph was born, Jacob decided to return home to Esau, he hears that Esau is sending 400 men to meet him. Jacob fears a fight. To prepare Jacob is alone and he fights all night with a stranger. In the morning the stranger asks his name and then says, 'You shall not be called Jacob any longer but Israel' and then disappears, Jacob realises that he had been wrestling with God. Esau finds Jacob and they are reunited and Jacob with his family are welcomed home.
Joseph's dreams	Genesis 37	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	Joseph was Jacob's favourite son, he made him a beautiful coat, his brothers were jealous. To make matters worse, Joseph told the brothers about the dreams he had about his brothers bowing down to him. This made them angry, so they plotted to kill Joseph. But Reuben persuaded them not to kill Joseph but to sell him as a slave to some travelling Ishmaelites. The brothers then killed a baby goat on the way home, covered Joseph's coat in blood and told Jacob that Joseph had been killed by a wild beast.

Joseph the slave	Genesis 39-40	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	Joseph was sold to Pharaoh's representative Potiphar. He became the head of the household. As a young man, Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him, but Joseph refused, she became angry and accused Joseph falsely, he was thrown into prison. In prison Joseph meets two of Pharaoh's servants a cup bearer and a baker. He interprets their dreams; the cup bearer is released but the baker is hanged as predicted in their dreams.
Pharaoh's dreams	Genesis 41	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	Pharaoh dreams of seven fat cows eaten by seven skinny cows, and seven plump ears of corn devoured by seven shrivelled ears of corn. No-one can interpret the dreams. The cup bearer tells Pharaoh about Joseph in prison correctly interpreting his and the baker's dreams. Pharaoh released Joseph who interprets the dreams as seven years of plenty to be followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh makes Joseph responsible for gathering and storing the harvest in preparation for the famine. When the famine comes there is plenty of food with some spare for people outside Egypt.
Joseph the minister	Genesis 42	Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	The famine has hit Jacob and his sons, he sends older sons to Egypt to buy corn. They bow down before Joseph, not recognising him, Joseph accuses them of being spies and throws them into prison, on the third day he releases them, sends them home with some corn, to fetch their youngest brother Benjamin, keeping one brother, Simeon, as a hostage. With the corn is the silver they brought to pay for the corn. Jacob did not want the brothers to return to Egypt with Benjamin.
Benjamin and the silver cup	Genesis 42-43	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	Soon the corn ran out, and reluctantly they returned with Benjamin and gifts for the Minister (Joseph). Joseph invites the brothers to eat at his house, here they are reunited with Simeon. The brothers bow down before Joseph. Joseph secretly weeps at the sight of his brother Benjamin and gives him more food than the other brothers. After they have eaten, Joseph orders the brothers sacks to be filled with corn, he hides a silver cup in Benjamin's sack. The brothers leave for home, Joseph sends his steward to catch up with them and search the sacks, the silver cup is found. They return to Joseph, who threatens to keep the guilty brother as a servant. Judah, having promised Jacob to keep Benjamin safe, begs to be detained

		Peace - Having openness and understanding so that people can live life to the full. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	in his place. Joseph realises that the brothers are now honest men and reveals his true identity and invites the whole family to come to Egypt until the famine has passed.
Life in Egypt			
Moses in the bullrushes	Exodus 1-2	Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	A new Pharaoh has become king in Egypt and the nation of Israel has prospered in Egypt. The Pharaoh is feeling threatened, so he treats the Israelites as slaves, and kills their male children. A young married woman has had a baby boy, she hides him in the house for 3 months, but the baby becomes too big, so she places him in a basket and hides him in the bullrushes on the bank of the Nile. Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bath and spotted the basket, the Princess recognised the Hebrew baby and the baby's sister, who was keeping watch, begged the Princess to help. The Princess suggested finding a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby. The baby's sister fetched her mother, and the Princess employed the baby's real mother to look after him, in time the Princess adopted the baby as her own and called him Moses, which means 'to draw out' because she drew him out of the water.
Moses is called by God	Exodus 2-4	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	Although Moses was brought up an Egyptian, he never forgot that he was an Israelite. One day he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite slave. Unseen, Moses killed the attacker and buried his body, saving the slave. Pharaoh found out what Moses had done, and Moses fled to the land of Midian. Resting at a well, 7 daughters of Jethro came to draw water, some local shepherds drove them away. Moses rebuked them and then helped to fill the women's jars. Jethro was so grateful he gave Zipporah to Moses as a wife. While tending Jethro's sheep on Mount Sinai, the Lord appeared from the middle of a burning bush, Moses saw that the flames did not devour the bush, The Lord spoke to Moses, warning him not to come nearer, 'This is Holy Ground'. Moses covered his eyes. The Lord said 'I have seen my people suffering, I will free my people and lead them to a new land. Moses,

		Peace - Having openness and understanding so that people can live life to the full.	you must lead them. Tell the people of Israel I am the God of Abraham and Isaac and they will follow you. Tell them that God, whose name is I AM has sent you. You must go to Pharaoh and ask him in my name to set my people free'. Moses said that he was slow to speak, the Lord said to take his brother Aaron to speak for him. Moses was doubtful the people would follow him, the Lord made Moses staff into a snake, told Moses to pick it up and it returned to a staff. Moses hand became covered in sores, and when he looked again it was healthy. After this Moses did as the Lord said.
Moses warns Pharaoh	Exodus 4-7	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	God told Moses it was safe to return to Egypt, he left Midian and with the staff of God, his wife and sons and Aaron his brother, returned to Egypt. He asked Pharaoh to let the Israelites go free. Pharaoh responded by making life and work even harder for the Israelites. God told Moses to ask Pharaoh again, they received the same response, Moses told Aaron to throw down the staff, as it hit the ground it turned into a serpent. Pharaoh instructed his court magicians to throw down their staffs, which also became serpents, but Aaron's serpent swallowed up all the snakes. Pharaoh was unmoved. The Lord said to Moses, 'go to the banks of the Nile, when Pharaoh comes ask him again to set the Israelites free, if he refuses, strike the water with your staff'.
The Plagues in Egypt	Exodus 7-10	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	Moses and Aaron went to the bank of the Nile, Pharaoh came, they asked Pharaoh again to set the people free. Pharaoh refused. Aaron struck the water with the staff and it immediately turned to blood and could not be drunk. Pharaoh still refused, Aaron and Moses followed God's instruction and stretched the staff over the Nile at once a plague of frogs came hopping out of the river into homes and fields. Pharaoh was horrified and commanded Moses to ask his God to take the plague away and promised to set the people free. Overnight all the frogs died, when Pharaoh saw this, he went back on his word. Then Aaron took the staff and struck the sand beneath his feet, immediately the sand turned into a plague of lice which crawled over the people and animals. But Pharaoh would not be moved, next came a swarm of black flies that crawled into peoples' mouths and eyes. Pharaoh pleased with Moses to stop the plague in return for the

			freedom of the Israelites. When the flies had gone Pharaoh broke his promise. The Lord sent disease to Egypt which killed horses, oxen, goats, sheep and camels. Pharaoh would not free the people, God told Moses and Aaron to take ashes from the fire and throw them into the air, the ashes spread a sickness of boils that covered the skin of men and animals. Still Pharaoh would not free the people. God told Moses to stretch his hand to the Heavens, instantly thunder and lightning with heavy rain came and flattened the crops and felled the trees. Pharaoh said he would set the people free if the storm stopped. Moses spoke with God and the storm stopped but Pharaoh did not set the Israelites free. That day a plague of locusts arrived on the east wind turning the land black and eating every blade of grass and all fruit. Pharaoh repented and God changed the wind direction to blow the locusts away. But Pharaoh went back on his word again. God told Moses to stretch out his hand and darkness came for three days. Pharaoh said to Moses you may go but you must leave your flocks behind. Moses refused to leave the flocks, so Pharaoh kept the people and banished Moses on pain of death.
The Tenth Plague	Exodus 11-12	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	God brought the last plague to Egypt, from midnight every first-born child will die, none will escape except the children of Israel. This will be known as the Passover, every house must kill a lamb, cook it and eat it with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. Your doorsteps must be painted with the blood of the animal to mark the houses to be untouched. After this terrible night, Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron and told them to take the Israelites from the land, the Egyptian pleaded with the Israelites to leave, 430 years of captivity ended and 6000 people were freed and left Egypt.
The crossing of the Red Sea	Exodus 13-15	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	God led his people as a pillar of cloud out of Egypt and into the wilderness by the Red Sea. Pharaoh was angry and led his soldiers to fetch the Israelites. When the Israelites saw Pharaoh and his army approaching they

		Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	were afraid. Moses said to them ‘Do not be afraid, The Lord will protect us’. As he spoke the column of cloud moved over the Egyptians and they were in darkness. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and a strong wind blew the waters apart, the people passed across the sea in a dry path. When Pharaoh saw this he and his army galloped in pursuit, but as they began to cross, the Lord told Moses to raise his hand again and the sea closed over Pharaoh and his army, they drowned while Moses and the Israelites were safely on dry land on the other side of the sea.
God watches over the Israelites	Exodus 16-17	Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	The Israelites wander in the Sinai desert for many weeks, hungry and thirsty, they began to doubt. When they were slaves, they were never hungry and thirsty. The Lord heard their grumblings and called Moses. That evening flocks of quail appeared, these were caught and roasted, in the morning white pebbles appeared that tasted of honey. Moses told them this was bread sent by God, some were greedy and took more than they needed, but any left over, turned black and stank. On the 6th day Moses told them they could collect enough for 2 days so that on the sabbath they could rest. Most people obeyed but some did not and collected food on the sabbath. The Lord asked Moses ‘When will the people learn to obey my rules?’ The days passed and they travelled slowly complaining about the heat and lack of water. God told Moses to strike the ground with his staff, as he did water cold and pure gushed from the ground, and everyone drank.
Moses receives God’s law	Exodus 19-20	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	After 3 months Moses and the Israelites arrived at the foot of the Holy Mountain, Mount Sinai, they made camp. God told Moses to climb the mountain to pray. After 3 days the sky turned black, lightning and thunder broke through the darkness. Moses heard the voice of God like a mighty Trumpet ‘I am the Lord your God and these are my commandments to be obeyed by all my people: You shall worship no other God but me You shall not make a statue or picture to worship You shall not speak the name of the Lord except in reverence You shall keep the sabbath day holy You shall respect your father and mother

			You shall not commit murder You shall not be unfaithful to your wife or husband You shall not steal You shall not speak falsely against others You shall not envy another person's possessions The people saw the darkness, the lightning and heard the thunder, they were afraid. Moses came to them and reassured them saying that God has come so we may learn his commandments and keep ourselves free of sin. Moses went back up the mountain.
The golden calf	Exodus 32	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Without Moses the people gathered around Aaron, they were afraid and asked him to make them a god like the Egyptians. Aaron asked them to bring him gold, he melted it down and formed it into the shape of a calf. They built an altar for it and began to worship it and feast in front of it. God looked down on the people from the mountain and was angry. Moses begged God not to punish them, God sent Moses down the mountain with 2 tablets of stone carved with God's commandments. When Moses approached the people, he saw what they were doing, he was so angry he threw the tablets on the ground and they smashed, Moses destroyed the golden calf and challenges Aaron 'how could you let this happen? Moses summoned the people, he asked those who were on the side of God to stand by him, only the tribe of Levi stood by Moses, he instructed them to enter the camp, fetch their swords and kill every man, 3000 men were killed. Moses went to the Lord to beg for forgiveness for those who repented, God sent an angel to lead them into the promised land, but they have made a false idol and must suffer for it.
Balaam's donkey	Numbers 22-24	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of	Balak, King of the Moabites was surrounded by the Israelite army. He sent for a fortune teller, Balaam, God had told him not to curse the Israelites as they were God's chosen people. Balaam did not want to go to the king. God told him to go, so he saddled his donkey and went with the king's men. On the way an angel appeared to the donkey, who shied away,

		others and enabling them to make a new start. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	Balaam did not see anything and was angry with the donkey. The angel appeared again to the donkey in a vineyard, the donkey squeezed Balaam up against a wall in fright crushing Balaam's foot, again Balaam was cross and beat the donkey. The angel appeared a third time on a narrow path, the donkey laid down and would not approach the angel. Balaam was angrier than ever and beat the donkey. God gave the donkey power of speech. The donkey asked, 'why do you beat me?' Balaam replied 'because you disobey me?' The Lord opened Balaam's eyes and he saw the angel. Balaam was astonished and appalled, he fell on his face and begged for forgiveness. When Balaam met the king he took him up a mountain, God spoke to Balaam telling him to bless the Israelite army down below. The king was angry and banished Balaam, sending him home empty handed.
Life in Canaan			
The promised land	Numbers 13, Deuteronomy 31, 34	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	Moses Sent 12 men into Canaan, the Promised Land. They spent 40 days exploring, they returned to Moses and reported that the land was fertile and good, but that the people were strong and lived in fortified towns. For 40 years the children of Israel remained in the wilderness, Aaron died, and Moses grew old. He called Joshua to lead the people into Canaan. He inscribed the Law of God on to two tablets of stone to be kept with the Ark of the Covenant. Moses blessed the people and climbed to the top of Pisgah, there God showed him the promised Land and there Moses died and was buried.
Rahab and the spies	Joshua 2	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	Joshua led the people to the River Jordan, he sent 2 men ahead, they hid in a house owned by a woman called Rahab. The king of Jericho heard about the spies and gave orders for the city to be searched. They didn't find the spies when they searched Rahab's house, she asked them to keep her and her family safe. They agreed a sign of a red scarf at her window so that attackers would leave her house alone. Rahab helped the spies escape down a robe from the city walls.

The battle of Jericho	Joshua 3-6	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences.	On the spies' return, Joshua called the people together, he said that as soon as the people carrying the Ark of the Covenant touch the water of the River Jordan, the river will stop flowing and they will cross on dry land and it did. The priests carrying the Ark stood in the mid-point and all Joshua's people crossed the river on dry land, the priests followed the last person and as soon as they reached the bank, the River Jordan began to flow again. Joshua gathered an army of 40,000 men to fight for Joshua. Jericho was under siege. The Lord said to Joshua, 'each day for 6 days you and your men shall walk round the city walls, the Ark shall be carried behind you led by 7 priests holding trumpets. On the 7th day you shall circle the city 7 times, the priests will blow the trumpets and the people will shout and the walls of Jericho will come tumbling down. Then everyone inside the city except Rahab and her family will be killed. It all happened as God has said.
The call of Gideon	Judges 6-7	Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	The Israelites have a new and powerful enemy the Midianites, they had been attacking the Israelites, who had begun to worship other Gods, in their desperation, they turned to the Lord for help. God sent an angel to Gideon, he told him that he must save the people. Gideon was hot and tired from threshing the small amount of corn he had managed to save; he doubted the task. The angel reassured him 'The Lord will be with you'. That night Gideon smashed the altar to Baal, that the people had built. The Israelites were angry and threatened to kill Gideon. His father intervened and said 'If Baal is a god then let him take his own revenge' Gideon then gathers his own army of 2000 men, camped by the spring of Harod, he allowed any doubters to leave and return home. The remaining army of 1000 men went to the spring. God told Gideon to only take the men that drank from their hands, this left Gideon with only 300 men. When darkness fell Gideon gave the men a trumpet and an earthenware lantern, they surrounded the Midianites and at a signal blew their horns and smashed the lanterns. Confused and terrified, the enemy fought amount themselves and fled into the night. Gideon won his victory without striking a single blow.

Jephthah's daughter	Judges 11	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	Jephthah was turned out of his home because his mother was not the mother of his siblings. He made his home in Tob. After many years the Ammonites declared war of the Israelites, they came to Jephthah for help as he was a brave soldier. He was persuaded to join the Israelite army. On the eve of the battle, he prayed to God that if he was victorious, he would sacrifice the first thing he saw on his safe return home. Jephthah won the battle and returning home was greeted by his only child, his daughter. He was distraught, but when he explained to his daughter, she said he must honour his vow, but could he give her 2 months to prepare. After two months Jephthah sacrificed his only child according to his vow.
Samson and the lion	Judges 13-14	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	For 40 years the Israelites suffered at the hands of the Philistines. An angel appeared to a childless couple, 'you will have a son who will win a great victory over the Philistines. While you carry the child you must not drink wine or strong drink for your son will be dedicated to God.' The child was called Samson, he was tall and strong. He fell in love with a Philistine woman in Timnah, they travelled to the town and while walking in a vineyard a lion leapt at them. Samson torn the lion apart. Soon he asked the Philistine girl to marry him. A little while later, Samson saw a honeycomb inside the lion's carcass, he scooped some out despite the bee stings and gave some to his parents. To celebrate his wedding, he invited 30 guests and as was the custom he set them a riddle, 'out of the eater comes meat; out of the strong comes sweet: what does it mean?' no one could solve the riddle, the guests became angry and threatened to burn the house. Samson's wife came to him in tars, saying that if he loved her, he would tell her the answer to the riddle, eventually Samson told her. The next day he asked if anyone had solved the riddle and one of the guests stood up and said, 'nothing is sweeter than honey, there is nothing stronger than a lion'. Immediately Samson knew that his wife has tricked him, in his rage he killed 30 Philistines and returned to his father's house never seeing his wife again.
Samson and Delilah	Judges 16	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right	Time passed and Samson fell in love with Delilah. The Philistines told Delilah that she must discover the secret of Samson's great strength in

		and true – not giving in to discouragement. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	return they would give her 11 hundred pieces of silver. Delilah asked him ‘what is the secret of your strength, how could you be made captive?’ Sampson said ‘If I were bound with seven bowstrings I should be helpless as a child.’ So Delilah bound him the seven bowstrings given to her by the Philistines who were hiding in the next room, then she cried out ‘the Philistines are upon us!’ Samson snapped them easily. Delilah was angry that Samson has lied to her, he said that he could be bound by ropes that had never been used before. Delilah bound Samson with new ropes, as the Philistines entered the room, Samson broke free from the ropes. A third time Delilah asked, Samson said weave my hair into a fabric on her loom, again the Philistines tried to capture him, but he broke free. Delilah challenged Samson ‘if you love me why tell me lies’. Eventually Samson told her that if his hair is cut his strength goes with it. While asleep Delilah shaved off Samson’s hair, while he was weak, the Philistines captured him and made him blind.
Samson in the Temple	Judges 16	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless	Slowly Samson’s hair began to re-grow. The Philistines celebrated the capture of Samson in the temple to their god Dagon. They paraded Samson in the Temple, he stood between the pillars of the doorway so everyone could see him, blind and helpless. A crowd of thousands gathered. Samson silently prayed’ Oh Lord God, give me my strength once more!’ Bracing his hands on the pillars he pushed with all his might, the earth shook, and the temple roof and walls collapsed killing everyone inside including Samson. Dying Samson won a final victory over the Philistines.
Ruth and Naomi	Ruth 1-4	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences.	A widow, Naomi, lived in Moab, her husband and two sons had also died, so she lived with her daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth. Naomi longed to return to her home in Bethlehem, Orpah and Ruth said they would go with her, but Naomi said they should stay in their homeland. Ruth loved Naomi so much she would not allow her to travel alone. They arrived in Bethlehem at harvest time, Ruth went into the fields to gather the leftover grain. Boaz, Naomi’s cousin who owned the field, noticed her and asked about her, hearing of her kindness to Naomi, he invited her to eat with his family. Naomi, told Ruth to return to Boaz at night and lie at his feet to sleep, Boaz woke to find Ruth, he asked her why she was there, she asked

		Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	Boaz for his protection. Boaz grew to love Ruth and they were married and had a son.
Samuel is called to serve God	1 Samuel 1-3	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Peace - Having openness and understanding so that people can live life to the full. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	Hannah was one of two wives for Elkanah, his other wife has children but not Hannah, She prayed to God that she could have a son and promised to devote his life to God. In due course she had a son, Samuel, and once he was weaned, she took him to the Priest, Eli, in the Temple to be brought up in the temple. Eli's sons were wicked, Eli loved Samuel and he grew up be straight and true. One night Samuel was woken by a voice, he ran to Eli to see what he needed, by Eli had not called him. Again Samuel was woken by a voice calling Samuel, Samuel, again he ran to Eli but he had been asleep, Eli told him it must be the voice of God. A third time Samuel heard the voice, this time he answered, 'Lord I am your servant and ready to obey' The Lord replied to say that the sons of Eli were wicked and could not serve as priests nor be pardoned for their wickedness. The next morning Samuel told Eli, who accepted this as the word of the Lord.
The Ark is captured	1 Samuel 4-6	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	The Israelites believed that the Ark of the Covenant meant that God was near them. They were at war with the Philistines, they took the Ark to help them in a battle, but the Israelites lost the battle, and the Ark was captured. The Philistines took the Ark and placed in it the temple to their god Dagon. The next morning the statue of Dagon was lying on the ground, they set the golden statue upright again. The following morning the statue was broken on the ground. Frightened the Philistines decided to return the Ark, they set it on a cart pulled by untrained oxen. The oxen expertly pulled the cart back to the land occupied by the Israelites, who rejoiced at its return and thanked God.
Saul, the First King	1 Samuel 8-10	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Samuel grew old and he asked God what he should do. God told him that a man called Saul of the tribe of Benjamin would be chosen, he will make himself known to you. A tall young man approach Samuel on a hill, he had lost 3 donkeys and asked the Prophet for help. Samuel told Saul he would be the first King of Israel. Saul was astonished as he was from a lowly family in the smallest tribe. Samuel took him home, gave him food and

		Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	anointed his head with oil. He then told Saul to return home, on the way he would find his donkeys, and meet three men, the first leading three goats, the second carrying three loaves of bread and the third a bottle of wine. They will give you two loaves. Finally, you will meet a group of prophets making music and singing, you must go with them. Everything happened as Samuel had said. Samuel called the people together to present Saul as King selected by God, Saul was frightened and hid, he was found and presented to the people, he stood head and shoulders taller than any man. The people shouted God save the King. Samuel wrote down the rules of kingship given to him by God. Then the people returned home.
Saul's downfall	1 Samuel 11,13	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	The Israelite city of Jabesh was under siege by the Ammonites who agreed a peace on condition that the right eye of every citizen was pulled out. Saul came home from the fields to hear the news. Full of anger Saul summoned his army and attacked the Ammonites, overcoming them. Overjoyed they celebrated the victory with sacrifices to God. Two years after Saul became King, the Philistines were preparing to attack, Samuel told Saul to wait seven days, at the end of this time Samuel would offer a burnt sacrifice to God. On the seventh day, Saul grew impatient waiting for Samuel and lit the sacrificial fire. Samuel appeared and told him he had disobeyed God's commandment and therefore his sons will not succeed him as King, another family will rule Israel.
God chooses David	1 Samuel 16	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	God spoke to Samuel, he told him to find a new king from the family of Jesse in Bethlehem. Samuel's arrival as a great and powerful man stirred up the people, he reassured them that he came in peace and blessed the people. One of the sons of Jesse came to be blessed by Samuel, God told Samuel, this was not the one, don't look at the face but into the heart. Samuel blessed all of Jesse's sons, but none were to be chosen. Samuel asked Jesse if this was all his sons, he replied all but the youngest, he is looking after the sheep. Samuel said, 'Fetch him.' The boy was fresh faced and strongly built, God told Samuel that this was the one to be king. Samuel anointed David and the spirit of the Lord was with him.

David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement.	The Philistines are ready for battle, Saul and his army face them, when a giant man called Goliath of Gath comes forward. He wore bronze armour; he carried a bronze dagger and iron headed spear. He bellowed 'I challenge you, Saul! Send one of your men to fight me to decide this war'. Saul and the Israelites were filled with fear. David, too young to be in the army, arrived to bring them food and hear the challenge, no one dared to step up to the challenge. David volunteered, Saul told him he was just a boy and had no chance against the great warrior, but eventually he was persuaded to let David try. David went to a stream and selected 5 smooth pebbles, then with his sling in hand he walked towards Goliath, who roared 'get out on my way boy, I don't fight children!' David replied, 'you come with a spear and dagger, but I come with God on my side'. David put a pebble in his sling, and whirling it around once he let it fly, the stone hit the giant on the forehead, and he crashed to the ground, dead. With their champion dead, the Philistines withdrew, and the Israelites celebrated their victory.
Saul turns against David	1 Samuel 18-19	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	David's reward for his victory was a high command in the Army. David lived as part of Saul's family and was much loved. David married Saul's daughter. The people of Israel saw David as a hero, he was cheered and applauded wherever he went. Saul grew jealous of David and in a fit of jealousy threw a spear at David, David fled and went into hiding. Saul sent soldiers to find and kill him.
David the outlaw	1 Samuel 20, 24	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	Saul's son Jonathan visited David in hiding, David asked him why did Saul hate him so much, why does he want to kill me? His friend promised to speak to his father and would send a signal if it was safe or dangerous to return home. Jonathan spoke to his father who entered into a rage saying he would kill David as soon as he found him. The next day Jonathan went to David and signalled that it was not safe to return, the friends hugged, and David departed into the wilderness. Saul and his soldiers searched for David in the wilderness, it was a hot day and Saul sheltered from the

		Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	sun in a cave while his men continued the search. David and his men were hiding in the back of the same cave. While Saul rested David crept up on him and silently cut a piece of his coat. As Saul left the cave, David called to him, My Lord King it is David! And showing the piece of the King's coat told him how close he came to him and could have killed him, but he is the king anointed by God, he would not harm him. Saul was overcome by guilt, recognising that David was a greater man and declared David to be a future King of Israel.
David and Abigail	1 Samuel 25	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	After wandering in the wilderness David and his men came to the home of Abigail and Nabal, Nabal was a very rich man. David sent some of his men to ask for food, Nabal refused, but his wife Abigail was kind and secretly went with 5 donkeys loaded with food to David and his men. When she returned Nabal was having a party and was very drunk, so it wasn't until the next morning that Abigail told him about her visit to David. Nabal's blood ran cold as ice as she spoke, and his heart failed, within 10 days he was dead. Abigail joined David and he married her.
The death of Saul	1 Samuel 28, 31	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Samuel died and the enemy of Israel, the Philistines were ready for another war. Saul saw that his army was small compared to the enemy, he prayed to God but only silence answered his prayers. In his misery and fear he visited a witch and asked her to make contact with Samuel, this was against the law, as he asked her, she saw an old man covered in a cloak who said 'God has left you, tomorrow the Philistines will win the battle. The following day the Philistines attacked and won a swift and bloody victory over the Israelites. Saul was mortally wounded, and all his sons were killed including Jonathan. In despair he asked his armour bearer to kill him, but he refused. So Saul took his own sword and plunged it into his heart, when the armour bearer saw this, he too turned his blade on himself.
Long live the King	11 Samuel 5-6	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	The tribes of Israel gathered in the town of Hebron to proclaim the New King, David. David lead his people to Jerusalem as he planned to make this city the home for his people. However, the Jebusites, who lived there did not want to give up their home. David camped outside the city and at night, his men entered the water shaft under the city and opened the

		Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	gates, letting David and his followers into the city. The Jebusites were defeated, David brought the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem and placed it in the ceremonial tent. Overjoyed he took off his clothes and danced in front of the Ark. He gave everyone cakes and wine and there was a great celebration. Michal, David's wife did not approve, she thought the king should not be dancing with the commoners. David replied Nothing I do for the honour of God is shameful, the shame lies with those who despise me for it! That Day David resolved to build a temple in honour of the Lord.
David and Bathsheba	11 Samuel 11-12	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	While David's army was fighting, he stayed in Jerusalem. One night he saw a beautiful woman bathing, he enquired who she was. Her name was Bathsheba, and she was the wife of Uriah the Hittite. David talked to her, courted her and made love to her. A little while later, she told David that she was carrying his child. David recalled her husband was one of his best generals, he asked him for a report from the frontline. He then sent Uriah home. However, Uriah slept at the gate to David's Palace, when David asked him why he had not gone home, Uriah said he could be at home when his soldiers were in battle. So, David sent him back to the battle with orders for Uriah to be placed in the most fiercest fighting. Soon Uriah was killed. Bathsheba grieved for her husband, but once her mourning was over she agreed to marry David and she gave birth to a son. However, God was displeased and sent Nathan a prophet to David, he told him a story about 2 men. A rich man has many sheep and another just one small ewe lamb, which he loved as a daughter. One day a traveller came asking to be fed, the rich man not wanting to slay any of his fat sheep, took the poor man lamb, killed it and gave it to the traveller. David said that the rich man should be punished, Nathan pointed out that David was the rich man in the story and that he must be punished by God, his son will die.
Absalom's rebellion	11 Samuel 12-18	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	Just as Nathan had said, David and Bathsheba's first son died, she gave birth to a second son called Solomon and God loved Solomon. However, King David had many children by many wives, and they fell out with each other. One called Absalom quarrelled with and killed his half brother and had to flee. After a while David forgave Absalom and he returned to Jerusalem. He was a beautiful man with long black hair, and he was very

		Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	ambitious. He grew a popular gathering about him and planned to fight King David for the throne. When he was ready, he challenged his father. As David rode into battle, he commanded that his men were gentle with Absalom. So Absalom was defeated, and he escaped on the back of a mule, with the sound of the battle the mule bolted into a wood and Absalom's hair got caught in a branch leaving him hanging from a tree. He was found by one of David's men who went to tell Joab, one of the generals. The general asked why he had not been killed, the soldier replied that David has asked them to be gentle, Joab was angry and went with three spears to where Absalom was hanging, he killed him and buried him in a pit. When King David heard that Absalom was dead, he wept for his son and wished that he has been killed instead.
King Solomon's wisdom	1 Kings 2-3	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	When King David was dying, he summoned Solomon and advised him to always obey the word of God and to be wise and true. After David's death, Solomon became king. One night God appeared to the new king in a dream, he said ask for what you most want. Solomon replied, you have made me a king of a great people, but I have no idea how to govern, Lord, give me wisdom. God was pleased with the answer because he had not asked for selfish things and granted him his wish. Two women came before the king, they had shared a house, and both had a child, but one child had died. Both women claimed the remaining child was theirs. Solomon called for a sword and ordered that the child should be cut in half and each woman given half of the baby. One woman said this was a good idea, while the other wept and said she would rather give up the child than have him killed. By this reaction Solomon knew who the true mother was and returned the child. Word spread among his people that this wisdom could only have come from God.
Solomon's temple	1 Kings 5-8	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	There was peace in the land and Solomon wanted to honour the wish of his father King David to build a fine temple for the worship of God. When it was finished, Solomon accompanied by the priests brought the Ark of the Covenant into the golden temple and placed it in the inner sanctuary. Suddenly the Temple was filled with a cloud, it was the glory of God filling the house of the Lord.

The Queen of Sheba	1 Kings 10	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	The Queen of Sheba had heard of the wisdom of Solomon but wanted to see if this was true. She travelled to Jerusalem to meet Solomon. The King received her courteously and she asked him many difficult questions which he answered with great wisdom. She saw that Solomon ruled his people well, they were wealthy, happy and he had a magnificent palace. She knew that he was not only wise but also a good king. She gave him many gifts and Solomon presented her with everything she desired, his wealth and generosity was without limit. Sheba returned home laden with riches from Israel.
Elijah in the wilderness	1 Kings 17	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	After King Solomon's death, his son Rehoboam became king. There was unrest and Rehoboam did not listen to his people. The tribes rebelled and the kingdom split into two, Israel and Judah. Then the people of Israel turned against God and became wicked. The prophet Elijah foretold that God would bring a drought lasting many years. God spoke to Elijah telling him to go to the stream in the valley of Kerith and live there in secret, ravens will bring you food. Elijah obeyed and survived there until the stream dried up. God commanded him to go to the city of Sidon, there Elijah met a woman gathering sticks outside the city walls, he asked her for food. She said she only had a little flour and oil just enough for her and her son. Elijah said go to your house you will find enough flour and oil to last until the rains come. There was enough food for the woman, her son and Elijah, just as he had said. Then the woman's son fell ill and died, she cried out to Elijah how could he have let God take her son. Elijah lifted the boy placed him on his bed and bent over him three times. He prayed 'O Lord, let this child's life return'. The boy took a deep breath and was restored. The woman, overjoyed, proclaimed truly you are a man of God!
The Israelites turn against God	1 Kings 18	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	The drought had lasted 3 years when Elijah went to Samaria to see Ahab, king of Israel, who had turned from God and worshiped Baal. Elijah summoned all the people of Israel to Mount Carmel. There he told them they could not worship Baal and God. But the people remained silent. So Elijah said to them build an altar to Baal and I will build an altar to God. When they were finished, they laid wood and a sacrificial calf on both altars. Elijah called out 'Let he who is the true God set alight the fire on his

			altar!’ The priests lifted their arms and called to their god to send them fire but the Altar to Baal remained unlit. Then Elijah ordered jars of water to be emptied over his altar so that the wood was soaked. Then he spoke quietly to God to send fire to the altar so that your people return to you. Instantly the sodden wood burst into flames and within seconds the wood, the calf and the stone of the altar turned to blackened ashes. The people fell on their faces and honoured God. Then God led Elijah to the top of mount Carmel and asked him what did he see, Elijah replied nothing, this was repeated 7 times, on the last time a small cloud could be seen. God sent Elijah to Ahab to tell him that the rains were coming. As Elijah spoke the sky grew black, the rain came and a great wind rose, the drought was broken.
Naboth’s Vineyard	1 Kings 21	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Next to King Ahab’s palace was a vineyard. The king wanted to buy the vineyard, but Naboth refused. The king was not used to being refused, threw himself on his bed, turned to face the wall and refused food and drink. His wife, Jezebel was concerned and asked the king what was wrong. When he told her she laughed and promised that the vineyard would be his. Jezebel wrote to all the officials and noblemen in the city using the King’s name and seal. She gave instructions for a day of fasting and Naboth should be set in a position of importance. Two men were to sit opposite him and accuse him of speaking against God, a crime which carried the death penalty. Everything happened as she planned, Naboth was accused and stoned to death. Jezebel then gave the vineyard to the King. The king goes to inspect the vineyard, where he meets the prophet Elijah, who tells him that the vineyard has been bought with the death of an innocent man, God will punish you and Jezebel with death. Ahab was distraught on discovering how the vineyard had become his, he tore his clothes, wore sackcloth, and refused to eat, falling into a deep despair. God saw that Ahab was truly sorry, he spoke to Elijah to say that because he was sorry, God would be merciful. He may live out his days but there will come a time when disaster will fall on his descendants.

Elijah's final journey	11 Kings 2	Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences.	One day Elijah was travelling with his chosen successor Elisha. Knowing that he was soon to die, Elijah asked Elisha to go no further with him, but Elisha did not want to leave Elijah to travel alone as an old man. Again, at Bethel Elijah asked to be left to travel on alone, again Elisha refused. Finally at the River Jordan, Elijah took off his cloak and beat the surface of the water, the water parted, and the prophets crossed on dry land. Suddenly a golden chariot of fire, drawn by horses of flaming scarlet and gold appeared and swept Elijah up into the sky. Elisha was left alone, and Elijah was never seen again. Elisha took up Elijah's discarded cloak and beat the waters, which parted, and Elisha crossed the River Jordan, back to the other side on dry land, as the spirit of Elijah was now with Elisha.
Elisha and the woman of Shunem	11 Kings 4	Friendship - Working together to achieve shared goals – overcoming our differences. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Grace - Displaying generosity and kindness – showing care for others.	Elisha often travelled to the city of Shunem, he stayed in the house of a rich woman, who fed Elisha and gave him a bed to sleep in. She said Elisha could stay whenever and gave him his own bed, table and lamp. One evening Elisha called his servant, Gehazi, how can I repay the kindness of this woman? his servant replied that the woman wanted a child but her husband was too old to father a child. Elisha called the woman, she came and stood in the doorway. Elisha told her that she would soon have a son, she replied that it cannot happen, but within a year she gave birth to a son. When the boy was older, he ran to his father in the fields complaining that he had a pain in his head, frightened that the boy was seriously ill, he called a servant to carry the boy back to the house. His mother took him in her arms but by midday the boy was dead. With tears running down her face, the mother laid the boy on Elisha's bed and set out to look for Elisha, they found him on Mount Carmel. She grasped Elisha's feet, his servant pushed her away, but Elisha saw her distress and asked what had happened. Elisha gave his servant, Gehazi, his staff and told him to go ahead to the boy and to touch the boy's face with the staff. Following behind, Elisha and the boy's mother returned to Shunem. Gehazi did as Elisha had said, but when the prophet arrived, he said that the boy was still and his body cold, the boy was dead. Elisha went into the room alone and knelt beside the boy and prayed to God. Then very carefully he laid down on top of the boy and placed his mouth on the boy's mouth and his eyes on

			the boy's eyes and his hands on the dead boy's hands. As he did this the boy's body became warm, Elisha stood up and saw the colour return to the boy. The boy sneezed twice and opened his eyes. Elisha called to the boy's mother, 'come embrace your son!' The woman ran into the room and fell on her knees before the prophet and thanked him with all her heart, then hand in hand she left the room with her son.
Elisha and Naaman	11 Kings 5	Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	A commander in the Syrian army called Naaman was suffering from leprosy. His Israelite servant suggested he visit Elisha in Samaria as she believed he would cure Naaman. He asked the king of Syria for permission to visit Elisha in Israel. The king gave him a letter for the king of Israel and Naaman took valuable gifts of gold and jewels. The king of Israel was angry that a Syrian king was asking him to perform miracles in curing his commander of leprosy. Elisha heard what had happened and sent word to Naaman to come to him. When Naaman arrived, Elisha sent his servant with instructions to bath 7 times in the Jordan and he would be cured. Naaman was outraged that Elisha had not met him in person, all he needed was to touch the prophet's hand to be cured, he had greater rivers in his home country. In fury he prepared to leave, but the servant stopped him, he said, if the Prophet had asked you to do a difficult thing, you would have done it without question, just because he has asked you to do a simple thing you should agree to do this. Realising the sense of the servant's words, he went and bathed in the river Jordan 7 times and his skin cleared of sores and was made new. Overcome with joy he returned to Elisha to thank him 'I now know that there is no god but the God of Israel!' Elisha refused his gifts and sent him on his way.
Conquering Nations			
The Prophet Isaiah	Isaiah 6,35,40	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	Isaiah was a prophet of the Lord. Through him God spoke to his people. Isaiah warned them what would happen if they failed to obey God's commandments, he foretold the coming of the Messiah who would bring hope and salvation to everyone. One day in the Temple in Jerusalem, Isaiah had a vision. He saw God in robes filling the temple sat on a throne with 6 winged seraphs above singing 'Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord!' Isaiah cried, knowing how unclean the

			words that he spoke were. As he spoke the seraphs flew like red hot coals towards him. A seraph touched his lips with a burning coal and said ‘now your guilt is burned away, you are without sin’. Then he heard God saying ‘who can I send? Isaiah answered, ‘Here I am; send me’ God sent Isaiah with a message for the people, and warned him that they would not listen and will refuse to be healed. Isaiah spent his life listening to God and telling of a time that will come when happiness and joy will be everywhere, the desert will flower, the weak become strong, the lame will leap like deer. Those who follow God will be given new life and will be safe forever.
Hezekiah’s gold	11 Kings 7-18	Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless.	The King of Syria swept through Israel, laying siege to cities, burning crops and taking prisoners. This punishment fell on the people of Israel because they had not obeyed the word of the Lord, they had worshiped false gods and sinned. The promised land was occupied and they became slaves. In time a new king of Judah, Hezekiah, a wise ruler who did obey God’s Law destroyed the pagan altars. He sent word to the Assyrian leader asking him to withdraw, he offered him gold and silver stripped from the Temple. The Assyrian leader took the gold and silver but still attacked Jerusalem. The city was surrounded, Hezekiah went into the Temple to pray, the prophet Isaiah told him not to be afraid, God will defend you and the city. That night the angel of death flew over the Assyrian camp, all the soldiers died, the Assyrian king fled.
Josiah and the scroll of the Law	11 Kings 22-23	Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of others and enabling them to make a new start.	Josiah became the next king of Judah when he was 8 years old. He loved God and repaired the Temple in Jerusalem. During the restoration a priest found a scroll containing God’s law, he took it to a scribe who read out the scroll. When Josiah heard the words he realised that he and the people has forgotten God’s law, he was in deep despair and fearful that God would be angry. He send the scribe to Huldah , a prophetess, to ask what will God’s punishment be. Huldah said that God will punish the people and Jerusalem will fall on hard times, but because Josiah was a good man and repented for the sinful nature of his people, all will be well while he lives. In response Josiah called all the people together at the Temple, they heard the scroll read out and the King took an oath to keep the word of God and the

			people promised that they too would obey God's word the altars to false gods were destroyed. During this time Jerusalem flourished.
Jeremiah and the Potter's Wheel		Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion.	God chose Jeremiah to be a prophet, God told him that disaster would come to Israel from the north a terrible punishment will fall in the people of Judah because they have forgotten God and worshiped false gods. God sent Jeremiah to a potter, he saw the potter at the wheel, the pot was lopsided, the potter took wet clay and moulded and squeezed the clay until the pot was perfect. God said, Israel was like clay, if the people persist in doing evil, they will be destroyed, but if they repent I will make them into something good and strong, go Jeremiah, tell the people. Jeremiah summoned the priests and led them into the valley of Ben Hinnom. He told them that they would suffer war, famine and plague unless they give up their worship of Baal and false gods. The priests were silent, Jeremiah took a pot and lifting high above his head, hurled it to the ground and it shattered into thousands of pieces. He said, just as I have destroyed this jar, so God will destroy the people of Judah if you do not change. The people did not listen or change and so the city of Jerusalem was destroyed by the King of the Babylonians, Nebuchadnezzar. Then God showed Jeremiah showed two baskets of figs one ripe and juicy, the other rotten and bruised. God said the Judeans in Babylon are like ripe figs, they will repent of their sins and I will bring them out of captivity but king Zedekiah and the Judeans that don't repent are rotten to the core and will never find rest or prosperity.
The Israelites in captivity	Jeremiah 38-39; 11 Kings 25	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost. Compassion - Showing empathy for the struggles of	Years passed, Jeremiah knew that Jerusalem was in terrible danger, he tried to warn the people if you stay here the Babylonians will capture the city and you will die. Some army officers listening complained to the king, but Zedekiah, the king would not interfere. So the officers seized Jeremiah and threw him into a pit. Ebed-Melech, a member of the King's household discovered Jeremiah and realising he would die in the pit rescued him. But still the people did not listen to Jeremiah's warnings. Soon, Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon laid siege to the city, people were sick and starving at last they threw open the gates and Nebuchadnezzar took the city. King Zedekiah escaped with a small group of men but was

		others and enabling them to make a new start.	captured and his sons were killed, the king's eyes were removed and became a slave in Babylon. The Temple, Royal Palace and the whole city was burned to the ground and the people were taken into exile in Babylon. The weak and poor were left behind.
The golden statue	Daniel 1-3	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	Nebuchadnezzar was haunted by bad dreams, he asked wise men, astrologers and magicians about the meaning of his dreams with out success, he threatened them with death if they couldn't help him. Daniel was a wiseman Israelite among them, and with three Israelite friends went to the king to interpret his dream. The four men prayed to God and that night, God revealed to Daniel the secret of the King's dream. He told the king, that as he slept, he saw a giant statue towering above him, its head was sculpted of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver and its thighs of bronze and feet made of clay and iron. Suddenly a stone smashed the statue's feet and the entire statue fell to the ground and smashed into dust. A wind blew the dust away and the stone became a mountain covered in earth. This means, the golden head symbolises the king, the silver, bronze, iron and clay are the parts of the Babylonian empire. The stone is the kingdom of God, it is greater than any earthly kingdom and shall never be destroyed. The king was so impressed with Daniel's interpretation of the dream, that he knelt before him. He recognised that Daniel's God was more powerful and he appointed Daniel governor of Babylon. Later the king ordered a stature 15 time taller than a man to be made of solid gold he held a great celebration and ordered all the people to worship the statue as a god. Daniel's friends refused, the king flew into a rage and punished the three men to burn to death in a furnace. The three men continued to refuse to worship the statue, they said they had nothing to fear. So the men were thrown into the flames. The king saw to his astonishment that the men walked through the flames and beside them appeared a fourth man. The king ordered them to come out of the furnace, when they emerged, not a hair on their head was singed, they were unharmed. The king said that from that day the Jewish people were free to worship their God and that all the people a Babylon should worship God too.

Belshazzar's feast	Daniel 5	Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say.	Belshazzar was the new king of Babylon, gave a great feast, he ordered the use of the gold and silver cups which had been taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. The party was in full swing, when they saw a hand, writing on the wall in a strange language. The Queen suggested the king summon Daniel to interpret the writing. Daniel looked at the writing Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin. Daniel said Mene meant number, meaning the days of your reign are numbered. Tekel means weight, meaning you have been weighed in the moral balance and found wanting. Upharsin means division, meaning that your kingdom will be divided between the Medes and the Persians. That night Belshazzar was put to death and Darius king of the Medes took power.
Daniel in the lion's den	Daniel 6	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	King Darius is so impressed with Daniel that he makes him the king's deputy, but the rest of the king's officials were jealous and plotted against Daniel. They tricked the king into making a law that for 30 days no-one should pray to any god, only to the king. Daniel could not do this and continued to pray to God by an open window looking towards Jerusalem. The officials saw him praying and reported him to the king for breaking the law. King was dismayed that his law had caused Daniel to break the law, but he had no choice but to order Daniel to be thrown to the lions as punishment. 'Your God will save you' Darius told Daniel. The entrance was sealed, that night Darius refused food and drink. Early the next morning, the king hurried to the lion's den, he called 'Daniel, Daniel, has your God protected you?' Daniel replied that an angel had stood beside him and the lions did not touch him. The King was overjoyed and lifted Daniel out of the lion's den. Then the king had all the conspirators arrested and they were thrown to the lions who devoured them.
Esther becomes Queen	Esther 1-9	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves.	Xerxes was a powerful Persian king. In the third year of his reign, he gave a great feast for 100 days. One night he sent for his queen, Vashti, to show off her beauty to his guests, but she refused. The king was furious and declared she was no longer his wife. Messengers were sent to find a

		Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	beautiful maiden to be the new queen. Within the royal household was a Jewish man called Mordecai, who had brought up his cousin, Esther, as if his own daughter, she was beautiful, and selected to be the next queen. One day Mordecai overheard two men plotting to assassinate the king. He told Esther and she warned the king, the culprits were arrested and hanged. The king made one of his officials, Haman, chief of all the ministers and commanded his subjects to bow down before him. Mordecia refused, Haman was enraged and resolved to seek revenge not just of Mordecai but all Jews. He told the king that the Jews were trouble and should all be killed. The king told Haman to do whatever he thought was right and gave him his signet ring. Haman gave orders to kill all the Jews sealed by the king's ring. Mordecai appalled and terrified, went to Esther and told her what was planned. He begged Esther to plead for their lives, she asked Mordecai to pray for her, I will go to the king though I may die.
Esther saves her people	Esther 1-9	Love - Selfless service to others – putting others before ourselves. Justice - Standing up for fairness and equal opportunities – defending the weak and powerless. Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Hope - Sharing in the joy that comes from the belief that all is never lost.	Esther visited the king wearing her ceremonial robes, the king granted her whatever she wished, she invited the king and Haman to dine with her the next day. Haman was delighted to be the queen's guest, but also gave the order for the gallows to be built for Mordecai's death. The king could not sleep, so he reviewed his records and discovered that Mordecai had not been rewarded for uncovering the plot to kill him. How should I reward a man I wish to honour he asked Haman, who believed the king was referring to him. So he said that such a man should be proclaimed a hero, dressed in robes and given a golden crown and paraded on the king's own horse. The next day as the king and Haman dined with the queen, Esther begged a favour from the king, my people and I are to be destroyed, we have been bought as slaves and are being slaughtered like animals, I ask that you save our lives. The king was appalled and demanded to know who was responsible for such an order, Esther said Haman had ordered the killing. The king stormed from the room in anger, Haman believing he was in danger, flung himself at Esther's feet begging for mercy, the king returned to the room and believed that Haman was attacking the queen has him arrested and he was hanged on the gallows built for the hanging of Mordecai. The king was unable to reverse an order made with the king's

			seal but sent a message that the Jewish people were to be honoured and respected and had the right to defend themselves.
The rebuilding of Jerusalem	Ezra 1; Nehemiah 1,2,4,6,8	Creativity - Making use of our gifts to care for the world and create beauty within it.	Cyrus, the King of Persia freed the captive Judeans when he overthrew the Babylonian king. He sent them back to Jerusalem with the silver and gold stolen from the Temple. The returning Jews found their city and Temple in ruins. Nehemiah was the cup bearer for the Persian king and when he heard the news of the devastation in Jerusalem, he was heartbroken. The king asked why he was sad and on hearing of his distress sent him with an escort of armed men and letter to the local leaders to Jerusalem. Nehemiah inspected the damage, then he summoned the people, 'Come let us rebuild Jerusalem!' He gathered volunteers and organised the labourers. Some people tried to stop the work but Nehemiah assured the workers that the Lord is with us and will protect us. In just 52 days the work was done.
Jonah and the Great Fish	Jonah 1-4	Courage - Enduring in our commitment to what is right and true – not giving in to discouragement. Trust - Sharing responsibility for each other and refusing to live in doubt and suspicion. Truth - Living with integrity – saying what we mean and meaning what we say. Respect - Valuing each other and celebrating our differences.	God told the prophet Jonah to go to the city of Nineveh to warn the people to turn from their wickedness or they would be destroyed. Jonah didn't like the sinful Ninevites and didn't want to give them God's message, instead he went to Joppa. There he found a berth on a ship sailing to Tarshish. Soon the ship was caught in a terrible storm, the sailors threw everything they could find overboard to stop the ship from sinking. The captain went to find Jonah to ask the prophet to pray for the ships safety and found him asleep. Meanwhile the sailors drew lots to find out who has caused the storm, Jonah's name was drawn. Jonah accepted that his disobedience of God's instruction meant that he was the cause of the storm. He told the sailors to throw him overboard to save the ship. At first the sailors were reluctant to throw the prophet overboard, but as the waves grew higher and the wind blew stronger, they threw Jonah into the sea and at once the wind dropped and the sea became calm. As Jonah swam in the sea he was swallowed by a giant fish. He spent 3 days and nights inside the fish praying to God and thanking him for keeping him alive. Then the fish vomited Jonah onto dry land. God tells Jonah again to go to Nineveh and this time he went to warn them to obey God or their city will be destroyed. The king and the people, knowing that they have done wrong, beg God to spare

			them and promise to mend their ways. God heard their call and spared them. An angry Jonah built himself a shelter outside the city to wait for its destruction. God watching over him made a vine grow up to shade Jonah from the hot sun. The next morning God sent a worm to kill the vine, the sun grew hot and a stifling wind blew from the east until Jonah was suffering so much he wished that he was dead. God asked him why he cared so much that the vine had withered, a vine he did not plant or water but you resent God's care for the well being of a city of a thousand souls?
The book of Psalms	Psalms 8		Praise of God as the creator
	Psalms 23		Praise of God as the protector
	Psalms 118		Psalms 118 stone rejected by people is the most important – Jesus the cornerstone
	Psalms 121		Praise of God as protector