**VICTORIOUS EDUCATION SERVICES**

**PRIMARY FIVE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TERM ONE, 2014**

**FAITH**

**SOME PEOPLE OF GREAT FAITH IN THE BIBLE.**

* Faith is the act of being sure of the things hoped for.
* It also means being sure of things we hope for (Hebrews 11:1).
* Faith has made many people do great things.

It enables us to:-

* Do great things
* Have hope
* Be courageous
* Be trustworthy
* Fulfill promises
* Be patient
* Believe without seeing.

The Bible shows people who went to unknown lands on the instructions of God.

This means that they had a lot of faith in God for guidance and protection.

**EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE WHO SHOWED GREAT FAITH IN GOD.**

1. **MOSES EXODUS 3 -7.**

Moses was born in Egypt.

His parents wereb Amaram and Jpochebed.

Amram was the father and Jochebed was the mother.

When Moses grew up, God called him to rescue His people out of slavery in Egypt.

**HOW DID MOSES DEMONSTRATE HIS FAITH IN GOD?**

1. God appeared to Moses in form of a burning bush on Mt. Horeb.

The voice in the burning bush instructed him to remove his sandals because he was standing on a holy ground.

He followed all the instructions God gave him as he spoke from the burning bush.

1. He accepted to leave Midian and back to Egypt where he was wanted for killing a person.

It is God who told him to go back because those who wanted to kill him were already dead.

His faith made him believe what God was telling him.

1. Because of his faith in God, he had the courage to face the king of Egypt and order to allow the Israelites go to the Promised Land.
2. He led 600,000 men excluding women and children to the promised land of Canaan. It is still faith that enabled him to do that.
3. His faith made him perform miracles eg crossing the Red sea to the Promised land.

**GIDEON ( Judges 6:1 – 40)**

* When the Israelites sinned against God. He let the Midianites to rule over them.
* The Israelites cried out to God.
* God appointed Gideon to rescue them from the Midianites.
* An angel from God appeared to Gideon and ordered him to go and fight the midianites.
* At first Gideon gave excuses.
* He was the least and weakest in his clan.
* He never knew he was talking to God.
* God made him witness several miracles.
* God told him to
* God made the enemy soldiers to fight each other.
* Eventually, the Midianites were defeated.
* Activity:
* How did Gideon demonstrate his faith to God?

**DANIEL (Dan 6: 1 – 28)**

Daniel was a man who loved God.

The governors and supervisors never liked Daniel

They made an evil plan against Daniel

They advised king Darius of Babylon to pass a law stopping people from requesting anything from God except king Darius.

Daniel continued worship his God.

He was reported to the king.

He was punished by being thrown into the lion’s den.

The following day, the king came to the den and found out that Daniel had not been eaten up by the lions.

This made the king over- joyed and the people who had accused Daniel to be thrown into the den instead.

The lion tore them to pieces and ate them up.

**THE UGANDA MARTYRS**

* A martyr is a person who accepts to die for his beliefs.
* The first Christian missionaries came to Uganda 1879.
* They were Protestants
* The catholic missionaries joined them in 1879.
* The two groups preached and spread the word of God.
* The first people to get converted were the king’s page.
* A page is a young man employed to do various duties in the king’s palace.
* They stopped to follow some satanic orders from the king.
* They also stopped carrying out traditional rituals.
* This annoyed Kabaka Mwanga
* He ordered Mukajjanga to be in charge of killing these new Christian converts.
* The young men were given chance to denounce their faith in God but they refused.
* Surprisingly, they were singing as they were being burnt.
* Examples of these people were:
* Mbaga Tuzinde , Muwa Mawagali , Gyaviira , Kizito Omuto , Denis Ssebugwawo , Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe , Gonzaga gonza and many others.
* The majority of these Christian converts were burnt at Namugongo.

**STEPHEN**

* He was the first Christian Martyr in the Bible.
* How did Stephen meet his death?
* Stephen was a man of great faith. Because he was full of power and faith, he performed great wonders and signs.
* Some people felt bad about him
* They set up false witness against him.
* Stephen did not give up his teachings.
* Even when he was being stoned, he prayed and forgave his accusers.

**CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM**

All followers of Christ are called Christians. Christianity teaches us to live in harmony with our neighbours even when they are of different religions.

This can be possible if we have knowledge about their religion, beliefs and practices. There are a number of religions in Uganda which include:

* Protestants ( Anglicans
* Catholics (the largets group)
* Seventh day Adventists
* Pentecostals
* Baha’i faith
* Orthodox
* Islam
* African Traditional Religion e.t.c

**Similarities in practices between Christianity and Islam.**

* Both fast as a sign of sacrifices.
* Both have holy days like Christmas, Easter, Idd-El-Fitri.
* Both make journeys to holy places like Israel, Mecca, and Jerusalem e.t.c.
* Both communicate to God through prayer.
* Both give **alms.**

**Similarities in belies between Christianity and Islam**

* Both believe that there is only one almighty God.
* Both believe in judgment day.
* Both believe in life after death (eternal life).
* Both believe in the ministry of angels.
* Both believe in the ministry of prophets.
* Both believe in resurrection.

**Differences between Islam and Christianity**

* Christians believe that God exists in the Trinity where as Muslims believe that there is only one God and his name is Allah.
* Christians believe that Jesus is a son of God while Muslims believe that Isa (Jesus) was just like any other prophet like Mohammed.
* Christians believe that Jesus is God whereas Muslims know that Jesus was just a messenger.
* Christians pray at any time of the day while Muslims have fixed time for prayers.
* Christians do not have special wears while Muslims have.
* Muslims fast for thirty days in the month of Ramadan while Christians fast for forty days of lent.
* Christians eat some food and take some drinks during lent while Muslims do not eat any food or take drinks during the days of Ramadan.

**THE HISTORY OF ISLAM**

* Islam means total submission to the will of Allah.
* Islam was started by Muhammad
* The name Muhammad means “**the praised one”**
* Muhammad’s parents were **Abudallah** and **Amina.**
* Muhammad lost his parents when he was very young.
* Muhammad was then taken care of by his uncle **Abu Twalib.**
* One day during the month of **Ramadhan** Muhammad was in the cave of **Mt. Hira** praying. Angel Jibril appeared to him and commanded him to read the word he showed him. The word was **Iqraa**.
* This word Iqraa became the first word in the **Qur’an**.
* The first people to get converted to Islam were
* **Zaid**- Muhammad’s slave,
* **Khadijah** – his wife, Ali – Muhammad’s cousin ,
* **Abu Baker** – Muhammad’s friend.
* The idol worshippers in Mecca did not welcome the new religion (Islam)
* Mohammed together with his new converts were forced out of Mecca.
* Muhammad with his people fled to Medina. Muhammad’s flight from Mecca to Medina is called **Hegira.**
* Muhammad died in medina and that is where he was buried. Later his people came back to Mecca. Mecca is very important city in Islam because that s where Islamic faith started from.

**ISLAM IN UGANDA**

Islam was the rist foreign religion to be introduced in Uganda by the Arab traders who came to Uganda in 1844 during the time of Kabaka Suuna of Buganda. The head quarters of Muslim faith are at Old Kampala Hill. The organization that joins Muslims in Uganda is called Uganda Muslim Supreme Council (UMSC)

The title given to the head of the Uganda Muslim Supreme Council is **Mufti.**

Examples of different Islamic sect are:-

Tabliqs , Ahamadiya , Juma sect.

**Activity**

1. In which country was Muhammad born?
2. Who were the parents of Muhammad?
3. What does the name Muhammad mean?
4. Where did Angel Jibril meet Muhammad?
5. Explain the term Allah.
6. What is the first word in the Qur’an?
7. What is Hegira?
8. What name is given to the organization that unites all Muslims in Uganda?
9. Where are the headquarters of the Muslim faith in Uganda?
10. How were the following people related to Muhammad.

**PILLARS OF ISLAM**

Pillars of Islam are also called Pillars of Ibadat.

They include:

i) **Daily recitation of the creed or Shadat**.

A muslim must proclaim that there is no other god but Allah and his prophet Muhammad.

ii) **Pay Zakat**

zakat is given to zakat collectors, widows, new converts e.t.c

iii) **Fast during the holy month of Ramadan**.

Muslims fast in order to be forgiven.

Some people are exempted from fasting e.g expectant mothers , women / girls in their menstruation , babies / very old , the sick

iv) **Pray five times a day**

The prayers are:-

* Sabhi (from 5:00 am to sunrise)
* Zubr (from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm)
* Aswir (from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm)
* Magharib (from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm)
* Isha ( from 8:00 pm)

v) **Make a pilgrimage to Mecca.** A pilgrimage is a journey to a holy place. Every able person is supposed to go to the holy city of Mecca.

**HOW TO SHOW RESPECT TO THE ISLAMIC FAITH**

* Do not enter the Mosque with shoes on.
* Do not mimic the Muezzin
* Never play in and around the Mosques
* Give Muslims water for ablution if they need.
* Do not give them alcoholic drinks
* Do not dress like a Muslim if you are not one of them
* Do not do anything to interrupt their fasting.
* Do not give them pork or utensils that were used to cook pork.
* Do not allow dogs or pigs around Muslims.

**RESPECTING THE QUR’AN**

* Keep it free from dust.
* Do not despise its content
* Wash your hands before you handle it.
* A woman in menstruation should not read it.
* While reading the Qur’an, you must not speak, eat, drink or make any noise
* Nothing should be put on it.

**GOD’S WORD FOR US –THE BIBLE**

The Bible comes from a Greek word Biblos.

Biblos means “a collection of books”

The Bible has 66 books in all

The Bible contains messages about God and the way he relates to his creation.

The Bible is divided into two parts called Testament.

The Old Testament and the New Testament.

**THE OLD TESTAMENT**

The word Testament means agreement or covenant.

The creation story is found in the old Testament.

Books in the Old Testament

1. Genesis

Exodus

Leviticus These are the first five books in the Old Testament and Holy Bible.

Numbers

Deuteronomy

They are called **Pentateuch or Law books**.

They were written by Moses.

2. Joshua

Judges

1st and 2nd Samuel

1st and 2nd Kings

1st and 2nd Chronicles these are Historic books.

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

3. Job

Psalms

Proverbs these are poetry and wisdom books.

Ecclesiastes

Song of Songs

4. **Books of Prophets**

Isaiah Obadiah

Ezekiel Jonah

Jeremiah Micah

Lamentations Nahum

Daniel Haggai

Hosea Habakkuk

Joel Zephaniah

Amos Malachi

Zechariah

The Old Testament consists of 39 books.

**THE NEW TESTAMENT**

This is the second part of the Bible. It starts with Mathew and ends with Revelation.

It consists of 27 books written by different writers.

The first four books in the New Testament are called Gospels.

The word Gospel means Good news.

The gospel books talk about the conception, life, ministry, death , burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The book of Acts follows the Gospels

This book was written by Luke.

The next 22 books are letters (epistles) that were written by different authors.

They were written to solve the problem in the early church all over the world.

Most of the epistles were written by Apostle Paul.

The book of Hebrews does not have a specific writer.

Some people think is was written by Paul.

The book of Revelation consists of the visions of John from God.

**Gospels**

Mathew

Mark

Luke

John

**History books**

Acts

**Letters**

Romans

1st and 2nd Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

1st and 2nd Timothy

Titus

James

1st and 2nd Peter

1st ,2nd and 3rd John

Jude

Philippians

Colossians

Philemon

Revelations

**Ways in which the Bible is unique.**

It is only the Bible that was written by different writers but with no contradictions.

It is only the Bible that contains information about the salvation of man.

The books in the Old Testament talks about the salvation of man and the New Testament about its fulfillment.

It is only the Bible that contains prophetic messages.

**HOW GOD INSPIRED THE BIBLE WRITERS**

* Some collected information on major events and wrote them down fro example the Gospel writers.
* To some authors, God just revealed himself to them e.g Moses
* Others got information from God in form of visions e.g Daniel , John
* Many authors in the New Testament wrote letters using God’s wisdom e.g Paul , Peter
* However, it should be noted that all Bible writers were inspired by God himself
* To inspire is to be given power to do something.

**WHY DO WE NEED TO READ THE BIBLE?**

* To get knowledge about God.
* To get protection against Satan.
* To get guidance and advice on different aspects of life
* To get the right spiritual direction to follow.
* T learn from Bible saints
* To praise our creator.

**GOD’S WORD FRO US – JESUS**

After the fall of man, God worked out plans for the salvation of mankind.

Several prophets were sent to bring messages about the coming messiah.

God promised to send a savior to save human beings.

We read about these messages in the Old Testament.

The following are some of the prophet who prophesied about the coming of Jesus Christ are:-

**1. PROPHET ISAIAH**

Isaiah 53:4 – 12 says,

* But he endured the suffering that would have been ours.
* But because of our sins, he was wounded and beaten.
* We are healed by the punishment he suffered.
* He was treated harshly but he endured it humbly.
* He was arrested and sentenced to death.
* He was put to death for the sins of people.
* His death would bring forgiveness.
* Isaiah shows that Jesus’ work was to suffer and die for our sins.

**THE EVENTS OF THE HOLY WEEK**

Jesus’ mission on earth was to die for man’s sins.

In order to do this, Jesus went through suffering, tribal, crucifixion, death and resurrection.

This week in which all these things happened is called the Holy week.

**1. JESUS’ VICTORIOUS ENTRY IN TO JERUSALEM**

* Many people welcomed Jesus in Jerusalem as a king.
* They spread their cloacks on the road.
* They shouted “Hossana, praise be to the one who comes in the name of the Lord”
* This day is called Palm Sunday.

**2. THE LAST SUPPER**

* This is when Jesus organized a farewell party fro his disciples.
* This is called last supper.
* It is remembered as Holy Thursday.
* He took a piece of bread and wine and prayed.
* He gave to his disciples and commanded them to continue doing this in order to remember him.
* The bread symbolizes the body of Christ while the wine stands for the blood of Jesus.
* On this day, Jesus washed his disciples’ feet.
* This means Jesus came to serve and not to be served.
* It is a sign of servant leadership.

**3. THE ARREST OF JESUS**

* Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus Christ.
* After arresting Jesus, he was taken to the thigh priest, Peter denied Jesus three times.
* During his arrest, Jesus went through a lot of suffering.
* He was beaten
* He was mocked / insulted
* Soldiers spat on his face
* He was stripped naked.
* He was sentenced to death.
* A thorny crown was put on his head.

**4. THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS**

* The soldiers made Jesus carry the cross to Golgotha
* Golgotha means the place of the skull.
* The soldiers made Simon of Cyrene carry Jesus’ cross.
* On Friday, Jesus was crucified.
* Two criminals were crucified with Jesus on the same day.
* The people who were passing by shouted save yourself if you are the son of God.
* Come down from the cross.
* At three O’clock, Jesus cried out in loud voice, father why have you abandoned me?
* Jesus made another cry and died.

What things happened as soon as Jesus died?

* There was total darkness on earth for three hours.
* The curtain in the temple tore in two parts from top to bottom.
* The earth shook.
* The rocks split apart.
* The graves broke open.
* God’s people who had died earlier were raised to life.

**5. THE BURIAL OF JESUS**

* Jesus’ body was buried by Joseph of Arimathea
* Three days after Jesus’ burial, three women went to the tomb.
* They were surprised
* They realized that the rock which had been put at the entrance of the tomb was rolled away.
* The angels told them that Jesus had risen.
* This was Easter Sunday.
* The three women who were the first to get news about the resurrection of Jesus were:-
* Mary Magdalene , Mary mother of James , Salome
* As soon as Jesus resurrected, he went and showed himself to the disciples.
* At first they were surprised thinking they had seen a ghost.
* He showed them his palms and legs then, they believed.

**Activity.**

1. What name is given to the day when Jesus entered Jerusalem?
2. What happened on the last supper?
3. On which day was Jesus arrested?
4. Which Church activity is ended on Palm Sunday?
5. What does bread and wine represent in church today?
6. Who were the first people to know about the resurrection of Jesus.
7. Write down any four things that happened as soon as Jesus died.
8. On which day was Jesus arrested?