

Who am I and Who Is God?

Seminar aims:

- For students to be challenged to think about and consider who they are and who God is.
- For students to understand that we are all made in God's image- we are *God-Like*.
- To help students understand the 6 main ways we are *God-like*- Creators, relational, able to communicate on many levels, Intelligent, spiritual and Moral.
- To challenge students that through sin and humans thinking we *are- God's* and not just *God-like* we have been cut off from our life source- God
- To introduce Jesus as God's solution for our sin problem.

Guess who Game

Leader:

Using a picture (of a leader? Or a teacher? Or famous person?) Distort the picture in some way and have them try to guess who the person in the picture is by looking at it. Then show the undistorted picture once they have had their guess.

Link in with questions

Is this picture actually the person? It can help us recognise a person- it's an image of them but it isn't them. No more than our reflection in the mirror is actually us. When the picture is distorted is it still an image of them?

5 mins

Made in the Image of God

Genesis 1:1-3

Leader:

Read the verses or explain them and then link in with the question who is God and who are we? Then link to fact that we are made in Gods image- therefore we can learn who we are by looking at who God is and also what God is like by looking at what we are like and experiencing life!

There are 6 ways we are God- like. 6 things about all humans that show us things about God and show us how we are made in Gods image.

2 mins

Creative scarecrows Game

Leader:

Have 2 sets of 2 students come up and they have 3 minutes to create a scarecrow from a bunch of items. The most creative team's scarecrow wins.

Link in with the idea of humans being creative and God being the ultimate creator. We can create BUT we can't create from nothing- as God did! We are only an image of God the creator we are not God.

7 mins

Relational

Genesis 1:26- 2:18

Leader:

Wilson clip from castaway movie. Play the clip and explain that Tom hanks played a character who was shipwrecked and all alone for years on an Island. He made a face on a volleyball and it became his friend Wilson. In the absence of relationship he made a "friend". As humans we seek relationships and we find ourselves within them. We are made for them, wired to be in relationship. God exists in relationship- he is one God in three person's father son and spirit. "let **us** make man in **our** image" he makes us to be in relationship with each other and with him " it not good for man to be alone... let's make him a suitable helper"

3 mins

Taboo Game

Genesis 1:3

Leader:

Split room down the middle- to create two teams. Choose 2 volunteers from each team to come and play. One team plays at a time. One player faces the audience (on stage, back to the screen) the other player faces the screen (off stage) on the screen a word will appear with a line underneath- underneath the line there will be 4 words. The player who can see the screen must get the player who can't to guess the word that's above the line by using words and gestures- however they must not use any of the words, or parts of it/them that are below the line while they try and get the person to say the word above. The opposing team players must operate the timer as well as have a buzzer and when they hear the other team player

10 mins

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| <p>who can see the screen use a forbidden word they must buzz and that team doesn't get to finish that word it passes to the other team to have a go at a different word.</p> <p>Link in- as humans we communicate in a number of different ways and our communication leads to powerful things- good and bad. God's words his communication is also powerful- he spoke and the whole world came into existence.</p> | | |
| Intelligent animals clip | | |
| | Leader: | |
| <p>Play clip of animals riding bikes, opening doors etc. animals can be trained to do a lot of things and can have a certain degree of intelligence however they might learn to open a door, but will they question why there is a door there? They may be able to ride a bike but they can't design one.</p> <p>Humans have been given a degree of intelligent different to animals and this allows us to do amazing things. However we misuse this intelligence and destroy as well as create.</p> <p>One man who was granted great intelligence from God was King Solomon. God was happy with him so he told him to ask anything of him and he would grant it. Solomon asked for wisdom.</p> | | 5 mins |
| Spiritual | | |
| genesis 1:2, Ecclesiastes 2:1-11, Ecclesiastes 3:10-12 | Leader: | |
| <p>Song clip with lyrics: Hollywood's not America... <i>One of the messages in this song is the idea that many people are deceived by what brings true happiness and contentment in life. Helena Jane probably thought it was money and fame, and that's the message that Hollywood puts out every day. However people are more than just physical beings. We are spiritual. As is God Genesis 1:2.</i></p> <p><i>Remember King Solomon who we mentioned before- was granted wisdom by God- so had great intelligence. This lead to him having great wealth. They estimate he was worth 50-100 Billion. Because he had great wealth he spent a lot of wealth and time seeking after pleasures- whatever would make him happy. In Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 Solomon writes that everything is meaningless- all the things he searched for, relationships he had etc. they did not/ could not satisfy a great need in him. Because we are spiritual beings not just physical so unless we also look after our spiritual lives we will never be truly satisfied and happy and fulfilled. Ecclesiastes 3:10-12.</i></p> | | 10 mins |
| Moral | | |
| Genesis 2:16-17 | Leader: | |
| <p>God created us with a sense of right and wrong. Of looking out for one another. Although this has been warped and changed we were made with it and it can still be seen in part in people today. Show clip of children sharing their sandwiches (children were given two covered plates, one each, only one contains a sandwich and they all share it with the other without being told too.) God put Adam and Eve in the garden and he gave them instructions and the capacity to keep those instructions. They knew right from wrong however also had the ability to choose to do the wrong thing and that's what they chose to do.</p> <p>God made us moral and it shows us something about him- he is a just God- he seeks justice and will make sure it is fulfilled one day for all who do injustice in the world.</p> | | 5 mins |
| Game- real verses Generic | | |
| <p>Have 4 students come up and taste items of food and see if they can pick the real item from the generic brand item. (nutri grain vs powergrain, tim tams vs aldi brand knock off, rice bubbles vs aldi brand knock off, mars bar vs aldi brand knock off) They look and taste similar but there are slight differences. The generic brands are not the brand named brands they are different but similar.</p> <p>Then lead into the idea of fake vs real in more expensive products where we would care if we were given the fake posing as the real- I.e. Diamonds etc.</p> | | 6 mins |
| Fall into sin | | |
| Genesis 3:5 | Leader: | |
| <p>We are like God- But we are not God</p> <p>It's when we think we <i>are God's</i> and not just <i>God- Like</i> that we get into trouble. Adam and eve ate the fruit and saw that it was desirable for gaining wisdom. Satan tempted eve with the words "you will be like-God" when they chose to disobey God and put themselves ahead of him they were seeing themselves as God not just made in his image and this is SIN and it separates us from God because it's us saying we don't need God- then he says 'ok do it all without me'- BUT we can't live forever in this sinful state because it has disastrous effects on the world and on us physically and mentally- we hurt ourselves and each other.</p> | | 2 mins |

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| God is Moral- he seeks justice and will make sure it is done one day- SIN must be punished and the punishment is DEATH and separation from God forever. | | |
| Cut flowers and Sin illustration | | |
| | | Leader: |
| Use cut flowers as an analogy for sin and being cut off from God. Show live cut flowers and contrast with the same type of flowers cut a week ago. The moment we cut a flower from the plant it begins to die. No matter what we do- put it in water etc it will only prolong its life- it's still dying. We are the same. The moment we are born we are headed to death. It wasn't meant to be this way but SIN cuts us off from God who is the life source. | | 3 mins |
| Clip- Falling plates | | |
| | | Leader: |
| Show the falling plates clip which brings in Jesus as God's solution for sin were justice is met whilst our freedom from sin is also earned! <i>God created us, we are connected to him spiritually, and he wants a relationship with us. However he is moral and Sin and injustice must be punished- with Death. He is also intelligent so he created a way to make it all right and bring us back to him- Jesus took the punishment and death we deserved and now God offers us eternal life if we follow Jesus, and he sent us here today to communicate this with you!</i> | | 6 mins |

"Hollywood's not America"

*Born Helena Jane
With a restless soul
She moved west to California
Became a center-fold

But once you change your name
Well the pieces fall
Now she hardly recognizes herself at all*

*And there's never any rain, when you want it
A hollow little game, and you've won it
Looking for a thrill but you've done it all*

*So long, put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America
So long put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America
O yeah!*

*And everybody here's, from somewhere else
You could make a million dollars, but you
might lose yourself
And you can take the heat will your heart go
cold
They say acting's just pretending, even that
gets old*

*And there's never any rain, when you want it
A hollow little game, and you've won it
Looking for a thrill but you've done it all*

*So long, put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America
So long put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America*

*And I know what to do when
I know that you
You can be anything you want to be*

*So long, put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America
So long put your blue jeans back on girl
Go home
Remember Hollywood's not America
Hollywood's not America
It's not America*