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ECZ GRADE 11 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
SUMMARISED NOTES (FOR 2046)

This document summarizes Religious Education (2046/1) notes according to the ECZ (Examinations Council) Syllabus.

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UNIT 1: JUDGEMENT

Lesson 1 – Meaning and Examples of Judgement

Judgement can be defined as assessment for reward or punishment of a person's work or actions. It can be criticism of actions for punishment e.g. a court of law.

Lesson 2- Biblical Example of Judgement

The bible gives the basis on how people will be judged by Jesus. The following are some of them:

1. People's response to Christ.

This is illustrated in the following parables:

i) The Parable of the Weeds (Mt 13:24-30)

In this parable Jesus explained the symbols used in the story:

- Sometimes it is difficult for people to tell the difference between believers and non-believers
- At the Final Judgment the separation will be certain.
- The Son of Man knows who belongs to Him. Those who do not belong to Him will be separated and destroyed.

ii) The Parable of The Ten Virgins (Mt 25:1-13)

This parable also teaches that Christians will be judged according to their response to Christ.

2. Peoples' behaviour towards others.

The following teaches that Christians will be judged according to their behaviour towards each other.

- **The parable of the final judgement in Mt 25:31-46**
- **Johns warning about coming judgement in Lk 3:1-17**

Another symbol of coming judgement is verse 17. Therefore, the farmer threshes his grain and separates wheat from chaff so will Jesus separate believers from nonbelievers.

Christians should make themselves ready for Christ's coming by confessing their sins, helping others and obeying Christ's instructions for Christian living.

Lesson 3 – Christ Will Come Suddenly

No one knows when Christ will come (Mk 13: 32-37)

A. Parable of the Waiting Servants. Lk 12:35-40

Jesus' followers are like servants waiting for their master, his return maybe sudden. Those who are ready will be rewarded v.37. Jesus will not announce his coming.

B. Signs of Coming Judgement Lk 21:7-11

1. False prophets.
2. Earthquakes.
3. Wars.
4. Famines.
5. Spreading diseases.
6. Persecution.

Lesson 4 – Judgement for Unbelief.

A. *The Story of the Richman and Lazarus Lk 16:19-31*

1. This shows the results of not responding to the Gospel. The rich man had no time for God. Even miracles will not make any difference, if one fails to believe in God's word. We have no hope of salvation after death if we do not respond to the Gospel.
2. God will judge those who reject the message given by His servants. Lk 10:8[16]. Preaching of the gospel will meet with failure. DO not waste time over those who refuse to listen.
3. There are places in Zambia where the gospel has been preached but there is still cruelty and immorality. To reject Christ's message is to reject Christ himself. It is important to make sure of one's place in the kingdom. Lk 13:22-30

Lesson 5 – Christian Response to Christ's Return

The duty of the Apostles was to go out and tell the Good News so that people could be brought into the spiritual kingdom.

1. Today, Christians must also work as Christ's witnesses; warn people about coming judgement and the way into the Kingdom Acts 1:6-8. Jesus tells us our duty in this life is to be kind and concerned for others.

Lesson 6 – Muslim and Hindu Ideas about Judgement

Islam

1. Islam implies surrender to god. A Muslim claims to be completely submitted to the will of Allah.
2. Whatever Allah wills, good or bad, must come to pass. They believe in Destiny and Day of Resurrection.
3. They say Jesus is coming back to reign and will rule for 40 years. He will establish Islam in the whole world while the bible says he will rule for 1000 years.
4. They recognize the need for God's forgiveness, but doubt if he will give it.
5. They are deeply concerned about the Day of Judgement.
6. For Muslims judgment is a fearsome thing.
7. If good is weighed heavier a Muslim is promised heaven. If evil is heavier, he will go to hell.
8. A soldier who dies in Holy War, to protect or spread the Islamic faith, does not need to worry about keeping the law of Islam. The reason for his death, the holy war, blots out any sin in his life.

Hinduism

1. Very relevant to Hindus.
2. In 'Karma', rewards and punishments depends on deeds done.
3. The good living Hindu does not worry about judgement. He does his duty with no fear of judgement.
4. If his actions are devout or pious, in his lifetime or the next one, he will be rewarded now and in his next life. If his deeds are bad punishments follow. The life he will have at rebirth depends on his deeds.
5. One cannot escape the result (reward or punishment) of one's actions.

Christianity

Christians believe that people will be judged according to their;

1. Response to Christ.
2. Behaviour towards others.
3. Christian conduct and service.

UNIT 2: PRAYER

Lesson 1- Personal Prayer, Mt 18:19-20

What is Prayer?

Talking to God and listening. God wants us to communicate with him in this way.

When Should We Pray?

- You can pray at any time
- At a private time when reading the bible. It is good to have a special time to do this
- Christians should come together for prayer
- Anytime anywhere, quietly in your heart

Why Should We Pray?

1. Seek guidance.
2. For protection.
3. To praise God.

How Should We Pray?

- Private Prayer.
- Community Prayer.
- Prayer of Action; reaching out to others e.g. helping the poor and needy.

Methods of Prayer:

1. Worship and Thanksgiving; praising and thanking God.
2. Confession; telling the Lord about your wrongs and asking for forgiveness.
3. Intercession; praying for others i.e. the sick, poor, orphans etc.
4. For Yourself; praying over any problem.
5. Thanksgiving; Thanking God for answering your prayers.

Lessons 2 – Christ's Pattern of Prayer

Jesus' Example of Private Prayer

Jesus often went alone to pray to His Father. Some of the occasions were;

1. After being baptized Lk 3:21
2. After he had healed many people Lk 4:42
3. When he became very busy teaching and healing Lk 5:16
4. Before he chose the twelve apostles Lk 6:12
5. When he gave thanks for food provided Lk 9:16
6. Before he spoke of his coming suffering Lk 9:18
7. Before the transfiguration Lk 9:28
8. Before going to the cross Lk 22:40-45

At each important stage in his ministry, Jesus wanted to communicate with God the Father. We are aware of the strength Jesus drew from communicating with God because of His desire to do the Father's will. Luke puts emphasis on prayer. Followers of Jesus must follow his example of reaching out to God.

The Lord's Pattern Prayer, Lk 11; 1-4

One of the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. Jesus gave them a pattern on which to build prayer.

1. **'Father'** here was the Aramaic 'Abba' very familiar title used by a child.
2. **'May your Holy name be honoured'** – we come with freedom as to a father but with reverence because God is holy.
3. **'May your kingdom come'** – That God's rule may control the hearts of people
4. **'Give us each day our daily bread'** – God is trusted to provide for our needs
5. **'Forgive us our sins as we forgive everyone'** - God forgives us if we forgive those who wrong us
6. **'Lead us not into temptation'** - We ask our Father to protect us from any test that would be too much for us.

"If you ask in my name I will do it" John 14:12-13. Christian prayer is usually made to God, our Father in the Name of Jesus. We must follow Christ's teaching in Matthew 6:7, not to repeat a set of words we do not understand.

Lesson 3 – Christian Attitudes to Prayer

Perseverance and Faith In Prayer

i.) The friend at midnight, Lk 11: 5-13

- A man has no food for an unexpected visitor and it is too late to buy bread.
- Jesus did not promise that we shall always receive what we ask for, but that we never ask God in vain, he will always answer. An earthly father provides good things for his children's needs and so does God.
- This parable teaches the importance of perseverance in prayer.

ii.) The Widow And the Judge, Lk 18: 1-8

- This is a story of an ungodly, selfish judge who was not moved by a widow begging for justice. He finally settles the case because she is a nuisance. Judges were supposed to have special concern for the helpless such as the widows, orphans and the poor but they were often corrupt and selfish.
- God is not like the Judge; God helps the needy and oppressed. We rely on Him to help us if we trust Him in persistent prayer.

iii.) The Pharisee And the Tax-Collector, Lk 18:9-14

- A Pharisee at prayer is contrasted with one of the hated tax-collectors. The Pharisee thanks God that he does all the law demands not like some others. The tax collector is distributed by his own faults and begs God for Mercy.
- Prayer must be addressed to God. The Pharisee was only interested in himself. He was condemned for his pride.

Lesson 4 – How God Answers Prayer

Some people do not believe that God answers prayers and they have their own reasons for doing so. The following are some ways God answer prayers:

1. **Always believe that He will answer:** He may not answer at once or in the way you want.
2. **Pray in Christ's Name:** His name is our authority to come to God.
3. **Pray according to Gods will:** Sometimes he will make us wait or say "yes" or "no" to our prayers.
4. **Always obey:** God will always answer if we are obedient

Lesson 5 – Prayer in the Four Religious Traditions

There are similarities and differences in Islam, Hinduism, Christianity and Zambian Traditional Religions.

Zambian Tradition

1. Sometimes, an altar is made at every house.
2. At a special place, sacrifices are offered to the spirits. Special offerings are made at harvesting, planting, times of illness etc.
3. Prayers are the most common form of worship, some long, some formal, some short.
4. Prayers are made through the ancestral spirits as mediators between a person and the Supreme Being. The Supreme Being is sometimes spoken to at special occasions such as death but he is not worshipped.
5. Most believe that if all is well there is no need to pray to God as it might bother Him and annoy Him.
6. Community prayer is more common than private prayer.

Islam

1. Prayer is one of the essential Five Pillars of Muslim practice.
2. Islamic Law does not excuse the ill from offering prayer as a sick person may pray lying down. A Muslim can pray at the mosque or at home facing the direction of Mecca.
3. At noon on, Friday, which is the Muslim holy day, special congregational prayers are said at Mosque. There is also sermon given on moral, social or political issues. This could be compared with Sunday service at a Christian Church.

Hinduism

1. Prayer has very important position in Hinduism. It has an influence in thought processes, and as a guide to actions to a very large extent.
2. The nature of prayer is very diverse. The Hindu prays to Brahman, the great soul but sees God various other gods and goddesses, or even nature.
3. During Prayer, the Hindu may chant his own special verse (Mantra), from the sacred books. He may also try to sit in one spot and try to be one with nature, an exercise meant to drive out all passions, thoughts and worries.
4. Congregational prayer is not common.

Christianity

1. Jesus insisted on sincerity and simplicity in prayer.
2. Jesus showed the importance of constant persevering prayer.

3. By His sacrifice on the cross, he changed the whole system of worship. Christians may come to God in prayer, directly, because 'He was His own blood and obtained eternal salvation for us' Hebrews 9:12. Christians no longer need to come with animal sacrifices. 1 Timothy 2:5

UNIT 3: JESUS' ATTITUDE TO OTHER PEOPLE

Lesson 1 – Unpopular and Despised People in Zambia

Despised People in Zambia.

People have different attitudes towards others, particularly the unpopular or despised people. They may dislike or refuse friendship with someone. They sometimes mock, ignore, and isolate them. Some of the causes; jealousy, pride, fear, mockery and poverty.

Lesson 2 - Jesus' Attitude to Despised and Unpopular People

Lepers

1. Leprosy was considered a very unclean disease. There was no known cure and this disease usually ended in death. They were excluded from community.
2. The laws about leprosy were given by God to the Jews when travelling in the desert on their way back to Canaan from Egypt. This was necessary to stop the spreading of diseases (Lev. 13: 45-46 and 14:1-20)
3. Jesus was supposed to keep away from despised and unpopular groups of people in society. Instead he associated with them. He healed, mixed and touched them. E.g. Healing 10 lepers Lk17:11-19. He however respected the Jew laws and insisted that healed lepers do not touch them.
4. Jesus recognized that lepers must live separately and must make offerings to God, to show that they have been healed and show thanksgiving.
5. Anyone who touched a leper became ritually unclean.

Tax- Collectors

1. They were another group of people that were despised. They were treated as outcasts in society because they worked for the Roman Government. They were known as cheaters.
2. Jesus told the Pharisees that, if these tax collectors were bad, they were the ones that needed his help. E.g. Call of Levi Lk 5:27-32. Zacchaeus was another tax collector whose life was changed by Jesus Lk 9:1-10.
3. Zacchaeus gave back to his fellow men to become a friend of God.
4. Jesus was able to look beyond the selfishness and saw a man who was lost.

Sinners

1. According to Jewish thoughts, 'Sinners' were groups of people who did not keep the Law of Moses in all its detail. They were considered unclean.
2. Jesus was concerned about the person who was a victim of evil and not the social evils as such. Parable of the money lender Lk 7:36-50
3. Jesus accepted the invitation by Simon, a Pharisee, to a meal. A prostitute comes in and shows her gratitude to Jesus.
4. Simon is surprised that Jesus should allow this show of emotion from such a sinful woman. Jesus tells him a parable and shows him 3 things.
 - Simon was wrong to condemn the woman who had repented.
 - A repentant sinner is already a better person than a proud person.
 - Jesus reinstates the woman in society, and publicly announces that her sins have been forgiven.
5. Simon learnt that pride is a great sin before God.

Gentiles

1. Gentiles were non-Jews and as such Jesus was not supposed to mix with them. Jesus' attitude to gentiles showed that he was following the Law by treating them with respect and helping them e.g. healing the centurion's servant Lk 7:1-10. The highest praise spoken to anyone by Jesus was to a Gentile, Lk 7:9
2. The law about marrying non-Jews in Deut 7:3-4, concerned their religion not race, because marriage with other nationals might lead them to worship other gods, Ex 20:3-5. Another Law, Lev 19:33-34, commanded them to respect strangers and treat them well but they did not do this.
3. The centurion knew Pharisees traditions about gentiles and did not want to embarrass Jesus by asking him to come to his house. We cannot see Jesus but we must accept the authority of his words.

Lesson 3 – Kindness and Selfishness, Lk 10: 25-37

The Samaritan showed kindness to a Jew, his enemy. This shows that all people, even enemies, are our neighbours. We must show kindness and love of Christ, to anyone who needs help.

Lesson 4 – Jesus' Teaching About Forgiveness

Parable Of The Unforgiving Servant, Mt 18:23-35

Only God's unlimited forgiveness makes it possible for the sinner to enter His kingdom. The best evidence that we belong to that Kingdom is the depth of our forgiveness and love to those who wrong us. The bible emphasizes that we cannot expect forgiveness if we are unforgiving e.g. Mark 11:25

The passage in Matthew 18:15-20 concerns steps which Jesus gave towards restoring to fellowship Christians who have done wrong. Every effort must be made to set the wrongdoer right i.e.

1. A personal visit, straight to the offender, if he refuses to repent:
2. Another visit with 2 or 3 godly people, not to judge but to try and bring repentance. If he still refuses:
3. Take it to the church. If he still refuses:
-Treat him as an outsider.

The last step in such a case must be to continue in prayer, to stimulate concern for the offender. Whenever people pray for such cases, Jesus is there to guide decisions and judgements.

Parables of the Lost Sheep, Lost Coin and Lost Son. Lk 15:1-30

These Parables were told in reply to the criticism of Jesus by the Scribes and Pharisees, who believed that tax collectors and sinners were beyond hope of God's forgiveness. Jews were aware of the mercy of God, but for the Nation rather than the individual. Jesus emphasized God's interest in each person. He begins in two aspects of god's mercy: His searching for the lost one and His rejoicing when the sinner is found and brought back to him.

Lesson 5 – Love and Tolerance

Love

1. Jesus uses the Greek word “Agape” for love. It describes a love, which takes an active interest in the welfare of others. . In Lk 6:27-36 and Lk 9:49-50 Jesus teaches that we must have active love for our enemies. He taught that hatred, insult and injury can only be defeated when they are made ineffective by love. Christians must act in the same way, show love to all, even enemies.
2. Jesus disapproved of the kind of exclusive, intolerant behaviour shown by one of His disciples when he cut off Malthus’ ear Luke 22:47-51. Jesus demonstrates His love, compassion and forgiveness towards His enemies. He shows his disciples an act of tolerance by healing Malthus wound.
3. Jesus was the friend of Gentiles and tax collectors.

Lesson 6 – Christian Teaching on Love, forgiveness, And Tolerance with Those of Other Religions

All religions teach about love, forgiveness and tolerance. The following are teachings from different religions.

Christianity

Jesus taught that:

1. All me are sinners.
2. They must come to God through Jesus Christ for forgiveness.
3. When this happens, they have a new ability within themselves to live and act as Christ did.
4. By the power of the Holy Spirit, they are able to show His love, forgiveness and tolerance in their living.

Zambian Tradition

1. Revenge was discouraged. Strangers and visitors are welcomed. There had to be order in personal relationships.
2. A deep sense of kinship controlled how people behaved together and to each other.

Islam

1. Islam declares that all men are brothers and equal in their status as human beings. A man's merit depends on his moral conduct
2. In any matters to do with religious laws, the Muslim is unyielding.
3. Revenge is condoned, especially against non-Muslims.
4. At the same time, the Muslim is hospitable and is proud of the fact that even his enemies are welcome home.

Hinduism

1. Hinduism is not an aggressive religion. It has practiced through love and tolerance.
2. Love and forgiveness has been preached at all times.
3. Forgiveness is the main principle of Hinduism. Forgiveness comes from a strong feeling of liberalism and broadness of mind.
4. External love. It is a spiritual love and above all material give and take.
5. Tolerance is an important teaching. Hinduism itself has survived through tolerance.

UNIT 4: SUFFERING

Lesson 1 – Suffering In Zambia

Suffering is experienced by all creatures; emotionally, spiritually, physically, mentally.

Different Types of Suffering In Zambia

- Loss of job.
- Being attacked.
- Sickness.
- Hunger.
- Poverty.

People give comfort to the suffering by:

1. Encouraging the person not to give up.
2. Giving material or spiritual support.
3. Gathering to mourn.

Explanations For Suffering

1. Modern science says it is because of the laws of nature.
2. Christianity says it is because of sin. Before Adam sinned there was no suffering. God allows people to suffer for reasons such as;
 - a. **Test and purify people's faith 1 Peter 1:6-7**
 - b. **Punish people for their sins Deut 28:15-24**
 - c. **Teach people so that they completely depend on god for everything 2 Cor 12: 7-10**
 - d. **Because suffering is part of the cost of following Christ Mk 8:34-35**
 - e. **Discipline people and teach them Heb 12:5-11**
3. In Zambian Tradition, suffering is experienced by people because they have displeased the spirits or because they are hated by a witch.

Lesson 2 – Causes of Suffering

1. Many people believe that suffering does not just come. Suffering comes from a fallen world community or evil such as prostitution, drunkenness, crime, corruption etc.
2. People can bring suffering on themselves because of their conduct.

3. In certain situations people have caused suffering for others. This could be due to jealousy or hatred.
4. Though Christians believe that God is in control of all things, he sometimes allows Satan to bring tragedies into our lives. The tragic events in Job's life are examples. (1 Job and 2)

Lesson 3 – Avoidable Suffering

Examples of avoidable sufferings are Cholera, HIV/AIDS. AIDS is completely preventable.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

1. This is the virus that causes AIDS. This caused mainly by 1. Having unprotected sex with an infected person or 2. Sharing contaminated razors, needles
2. Also through blood transfusion of infected blood and from infected mother to baby.
3. People with HIV/AIDS suffer from common diseases such as Malaria, Coughing and Headache.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

1. Though anyone can be infected with AIDS, often its victims are people with high-risk behaviours. Carriers may live for a longer time without showing symptoms.
2. Some people with the AIDS virus may develop AIDS Related Complex (ARC) which shows symptoms such as;
 - a. **Skin rash.**
 - b. **Sweating at night.**
 - c. **Swollen Lymph Nodes.**
 - d. **Lack of appetite.**
 - e. **Prolonged fever.**
3. Preventing AIDS can be done by;
 - a. **Abstaining from sex.**
 - b. **Remaining faithful to your marriage.**
 - c. **Sterilizing all sharp tools before using them.**
 - d.

Lesson 4 - Effects of Suffering

1. Each kind of suffering has its own effects on the victim and other people. AIDS for example has a lot of effects on the individual, family, community and, national economy.
2. People with AIDS are often shunned by neighbours, friends and relatives.
3. There are many ways AIDS IS NOT spread
 - a. **Holding hands.**
 - b. **Sharing knives and forks.**
 - c. **Playing with or hugging an HIV/AIDS patient.**

4. HIV/AIDS has the following effects on the economy;
 - a. **Productive human resource is drastically reduced.**
 - b. **The quantity and quality of labour and overall production is affected.**
 - c. **Loss of skilled and experienced workers means higher replacement and training costs.**
5. Effects of HIV/AIDS on education;
 - a. **Lack of trained teachers.**
 - b. **Reduces public finance in education.**
 - c. **Pupils are unable to attend school.**
6. How To Avoid Suffering
 - a. **Good morals.**
 - b. **Proper use of drugs.**
 - c. **Respect for human rights.**
 - d. **Population control.**

Lesson 5 – God’s Involvement in Our Suffering

1. Though God may allow us to suffer, it does not mean he does not care. He cannot let us suffer beyond what we cannot endure (1 Cor 10:13)
2. He wants us to seek his kingdom first then everything else will be given to us. We should not fear man but trust in God. He knows about our suffering. Luke 12:4-7; 29-31
3. God also shares our suffering in Jesus’ Luke 9:57-58; Heb 2:18. Jesus demands total commitment. God however, strengthens us in all our suffering.
2 Cor 3:5

Lesson 6 – Jesus’ Willingness to Suffer For Us

Suffering was the cost Christ paid to make Salvation possible. His suffering provides Salvation and the glory of heaven. To carry out God’s will for mankind involved great suffering for Christ. Jesus predicted His suffering and on certain occasions He spoke of His coming suffering.

A. Jesus Predicts His Suffering. Lk 9:21-22

The apostles had discovered an important truth about Jesus. He was the Messiah. He and The Father were one, John 10:30, and as such, God's will was His will. This was the first declaration that Jesus knew he would suffer and die at the hands of Jewish leaders.

The Transfiguration – Lk 9:28-36; Isaiah 52:13-53:12

1. The "high mountain" could have been Mount Hermon, North of Caesara Philippi. When Jesus went to pray, He knew what would happen in Jerusalem, and he was completely committed to God's will, in spite of any temptations Satan might put before Him.
2. Jesus' whole appearance was changed and His glory was revealed.
3. The word used for 'Death' or 'Departure', v.31, is the Greek, 'Exodus'. Moses, who led the Israelites to deliverance from slavery in Egypt in the first Exodus], now speaks with the One whose own Exodus or death will bring deliverance from sin.
4. Peter wanted things to remain as they were, v.33. In v.34 "a cloud" is a symbol of God's presence, Exodus 13:21-22, 1 Kings 8:10-11
5. The disciples were afraid as they entered the cloud. Only after the resurrection would they be able to understand the meaning of the Transfiguration and be able to explain it. 2 Peter 1:16-18, John 1:14
6. Soon after the Transfiguration Jesus again told His disciples that he would soon suffer and die.
7. The third prediction of Jesus' death is in Lk 18:31-34. God, through Jesus, was prepared for shame and humiliation that men might enter His Kingdom.
8. The Apostles knew the Old Testament, but failed to recognize the kind of Messiah shown there. Their hope for a national deliverer prevented them from seeing the Old Testament's emphasis on a suffering Messiah.
9. Later they would be leaders and preachers in the Early Church. Lk 8:51; Mk 14:33

Gethsemane, Lk 22: 39-46

'And he came out, and went, as was His custom, to the Mount of Olives'.

Jesus knew that his own Nation would reject him. Even his friends would run away, and He would suffer and die. The worst trial of all was to take on Himself the sins of the whole mankind. Jesus was actually meant to be sin for us. 2 Cor 5:21. Jesus was "The Lamb of God" who takes away the sins of the world. He had come for this purpose.

Lesson 7 – Jesus’ Followers Should Be Willing To Suffer

A. Suffering And Death of John the Baptist, Mk 6:17-29; 7:18-28.

1. John had shown great courage by treating everyone the same, even the King. Perhaps he wondered why Jesus did not declare Himself openly as Messiah, and release him from prison to continue his work.
2. He sent disciples to ask if Jesus was the one who was promised. Jesus identified Himself as the Messiah of the poor and persecuted, bringer of salvation to all trouble people Isaiah 35:4-6.
3. Jesus reassured John by telling him that he was right to have faith in Him. John’s obedience to God’s will in preaching God’s message, and the testing of his faith, led him to glory and acceptance in the Kingdom.
4. The humblest believer in Christ now, is ‘greater’ than John. If John and Jesus suffered, we must also be willing to suffer.

B. Take up The Cross, Lk 9:23-27

1. The Cross is a symbol of suffering Lk 9:23-27. It was especially so to the Jews during the Roman occupation. Christ’s followers must be prepared to suffer.
2. The one who wants to follow Christ must be ready to make sacrifices and give up comfort and security, although it is not sinful for a Christian to be wealthy. Jesus demands total commitment, this may include suffering, Lk 9:57-58, in Acts 14:22, Paul and Barnabas taught the new Christians to remain true even through ‘many troubles.’

C. Christian Faith and Hope in Suffering. 1 peter 1: 6-7; 2:20-24

1. Christians can be glad even in suffering. It is the way our faith is tested and proved to be real. We can experience joy when we realize that soon we shall enter our promised inheritance. We deny our faith if we fail to identify ourselves as Christ’s disciples.
2. If the fear of God controls our lives, we need not be afraid to speak for Christ. Fear of God is not like being scared of something harmful but respect and honouring God.
3. Paul wrote to the Christians at Corinth that God would not allow them to be tested beyond their power to remain firm. 1 Cor 10:12-13.

Lesson 8 – Various Religious Teachings on Suffering.

Christianity

1. Jesus, as the Messiah came to suffer and die for us.
2. Jesus' followers must be willing to suffer.
3. God gives strength to endure.
4. Christians can have faith and hope even in suffering.
5. During suffering, a Christian should not have a fear of man but trust God.
6. Christians should not be full of self-confidence during suffering, but rely on Christ.
7. During suffering, a Christian should not have a fear of man but trust God.
8. Christians should not be full of self-confidence during suffering but rely on Christ.
9. Tragedies do occur in the lives of believers but nothing happens outside of God's control.
10. Suffering may bring you to physical death, but not spiritual death.

Islam

1. Suffering of any kind is the Will of God.
2. Muhammad himself had a difficult time, born to a wealthy family but became an orphan and grew in poverty.
3. Those who suffer for their religion or in defense of Islam are especially commended by the Quran.
4. Those who fight in defense of God's true religion will be guided and led into paradise by God.

Hinduism

1. Suffering is part of life and we cannot avoid it.
2. Suffering is a gift from God and we have to bear it.
3. Suffering is a way to measure one's strength of mind and soul.
4. The more holy a person is, the greater his power to bear suffering.
5. The more you suffer, the more you are purified.
6. Suffering may bring you to physical death, but not spiritual death.

Zambian Traditional Religion

1. Life is full of suffering because of sickness, death etc.

2. Such is caused by magic, spirits, curses etc.
3. God is not the cause of suffering.

UNIT 5: OPPOSITION TO JESUS

Lesson 1 – Reactions to Criticism in Zambia

- Opposition is having different views or opinions.
- People react differently to criticisms. Criticisms could come from family. School, church, and peer group members.

Lesson 2 – Occasions When Jesus Was Criticized

- Rejection at Nazareth Lk 4:14-30
- Healing the paralyzed man Lk 5:17-26
- Call of Levi Lk 5:27-31
- Picking corn on the Sabbath Lk 6:1-15
- Healing a man with a withered hand Lk 6:6-11
- Healing the woman with infirmity Lk 13:10-17

Lesson 3 – Priests And Scribes Challenge Jesus Authority.

Question About Authority

- Priests were upset with Jesus because he;
 - a. Entered Jerusalem triumphantly.
 - b. Been teaching crowds in the Temple daily.
 - c. Driven traders out of the Temple.
- The religious leaders asked, “What right do you have to do these things?”
- Jesus replied with a question(v.4) that they also failed to answer.

The Wicked Tenants, Lk 20:9-19

- Israel, as God's vineyard.
- Tenants, as the religious leaders who beat and killed God's messengers from Old Testament up to John the Baptist's time.

Paying Tax to Caesar, Lk 20:20-26

- If Jesus accepted to pay, he would be treated as a traitor to the Jews.
- Jesus' answer showed that duty to both God and civil authority were not opposed to each other.

The Question About Resurrection, Lk 20:27-40

1. The Sadducees believed only in the first 5 books of the Bible, the books of Moses. They did not believe in resurrection.
2. Jesus showed the Sadducees that Moses' Law about Marriage only applied to the physical world and not in the spiritual.

Lesson 4 – Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

The Plot, Lk 22:1-6

1. As opposition built up people informed the Pharisees about what Jesus had done.
2. Caiaphas suggested that Jesus should die.
3. The Sanhedrin feared to lose their power and privileges from the Romans if Jesus' fame was not checked.
4. A charge of treason against Jesus was suggested. The prophecy to save the nation was fulfilled in this way.
5. The chief priests decided to arrest Jesus quietly after the Feast of the Passover. Judas' offer made their plans easier.

The Arrest, Lk 22:47-53

Judas led his group of people (Chief priests, temple guards and Roman soldiers) to capture Jesus. A kiss was the arranged signal. When Judas kissed Jesus, they came and arrested him.

Lesson 5 – Accusations and Trials of Jesus.

1. The Jews were jealous of Jesus and they accused him of:
 - a. **perverting the nation.**
 - b. **forbidding people to pay tax to Caesar.**
 - c. **claiming to be king.**
2. Jesus went through 3 trials:
 - a. **before the Sanhedrin.**
 - b. **before Pilate.**
 - c. **before Herod.**

Before The Sanhedrin, Lk 22: 63-71

1. Jesus was first taken to Annas, (see John 18:12-14, 19-24) the former High Priest and father-in-law to Caiaphas. Although Caiaphas was the High Priest at the time, Annas still had great influence.
2. Annas then sent Jesus to Caiaphas who gathered the Sanhedrin.
3. They wanted a statement from Jesus that they could use to accuse him of blasphemy.
4. One witness said that Jesus said he would destroy the temple and rebuild it in 3 days. Mt 26:60
5. Jesus admitted that He was the Son of God (Mt 26:57-68). The Jews were satisfied that he was guilty of blasphemy.

Before Pilate and Herod, Lk 23:1-25

1. Pilate could see that Jesus was not the kind of person to stir up trouble and found no reason to condemn him, However the Jews insisted that he was causing trouble.
2. Pilate sent him to Herod since Jesus came from Galilee.
3. Herod asked him many questions but Jesus did not answer. He was sent back to Pilate.
4. Pilate tried to release Jesus but the crowd influenced by the priests convinced him that Jesus must be crucified.
5. Pilate made the crowd choose between Barabbas and Jesus.
6. The Jews had Barabbas, a criminal, released and Jesus condemned to be crucified
7. Pilate could not release a man who called himself king (John 19:12-16) as this is a crime.

Lesson 6 – Jesus’ Teaching About Opposition

1. Lk 9:1-5, Lk 10 Jesus sent the disciples to preach and not beg for food or money but accept whatever they were given. If they were not accepted in a village they were to leave that village shaking off the dust off their feet as they left. Lk 10:13-16
2. Lk 8:37. Jesus simply left Geransenes when he was told to leave but told a man that was possessed by many demons to tell them what God had done for him.
3. Mt 5:11-12 Jesus told his disciples to rejoice and be glad after being rejected.
4. Lk 11: 14-23 Jesus was accused of casting out demons by the power of Beelzebub. Jesus took time to explain that what they were saying was absolutely impossible;
 - a. **Satan would not use his own demons to drive out demons**
 - b. **Why are others that cast out demons not accused of working with Satan**
 - c. **His accusers should know that it is only God’s power that can break hold of Satan (Lk 11:20)**

Lesson 7 – Reaction to Persecution and Opposition in Christianity and Other Religions

Muslims

1. The Jews in Medina refused to accept Muhammad as a prophet. They mocked the Quran. Muhammad expelled the Jewish Clans from the city and had the men of the third clan executed.
2. The Quran encourages revenge against unbelievers.

Hindus

1. Hindus faced opposition from reforms. One such was Buddha. He established a new religion in other parts of Asia.
2. Hinduism is based on tolerance and non-violence.
3. There are fanatics and extremists that despise Hinduism.
4. In Hinduism, a physical defeat is not a real defeat. They never accept a moral defeat.

Christianity

1. Christians do not revenge and rejoice when persecuted.
2. Persecution identifies Christians with Christ 1 Peter 4:14
3. Persecution can build strong Christian character.

UNIT 6: THE LAST SUPPER AND THE CRUCIFIXION

Lesson 1 – How People React to Bereavement

1. Burying dead with certain objects.
2. Use of words like departed or sleeping instead of dead.
Shows that we believe death is not the end of a person.

Lesson 2 – The Last Supper, Lk 22:7- 23

- A. Preparations for the Passover**, Luke 22:7-13, Ex 12:1-30
B. The Lord's Supper, Luke 22:14-23

Lesson 3 – The Significance of the Lord's Supper, 1 Cor 11:23-28

For the early church

1. The early church observed this weekly or daily.
2. 1 Corinthians 11:23-28, Paul reminds his leaders that Jesus Himself introduced this act of remembrance.
3. Originally it was symbolic and called "Agape Feast" ("Love Feast").
4. It is an expression of God's redemption and New Covenant.

For today

1. Looking back in thankful remembrance.
2. Looking forward to the Lord's return.
3. Other names are 'Mass', 'Eucharist' and 'Holy Communion'.

Lesson 4 – The Crucifixion and Burial of Jesus Luke 23:26-49; Jer 31:31-34

The Crucifixion

1. Luke does not emphasize the physical sufferings of Jesus. Instead, he emphasizes the reactions of those present, Jesus' saving power, the words to the criminal and the centurions cry.
2. Jesus was weak from beatings (Mt 27:26), Simon of Cyrene, a Jew from East Libya, was forced to help carry Jesus' cross to the place of execution.
3. Jesus told the women not to mourn, a time of great was coming.
4. Different groups of people insulted Jesus. Jesus forgave his enemies. He assured the repentant criminal of forgiveness and made sure of care for His mother, Mary (John 19:26-27)
5. Those who watched recognized his innocence.
6. The crucifixion of Christ fulfilled the prophecies about the Messiah. Psalm 22 and Isaiah 52 as well as Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Burial of Jesus

1. Joseph had a private burial cave which he gave up so that Jesus could have an honourable burial.
2. He and Nicodemus wrapped the body in cloth and spices and put it in Joseph's tomb.
3. The women hurried home and prepared ointment and spices.

Lesson 5 – Significance of the Death of Jesus

- Animal sacrifices are not necessary Heb 10:8-12. The death of Jesus, the perfect sacrifice, brought an end to this.
- Barriers are broken down. Read Ephesians 2:12-18

Lesson 6 – How Does Christ's Death Affect Christians Today

1. In Christ, people are accepted by God, because their sin is forgiven, and they are reconciled to God.
2. Romans 6:1-6. God sees the Christian as if he shared Christ's death.
3. Christians now have hope of eternal life.
4. Christians do not place barriers between themselves and people of different culture and race.

Lesson 7 – Funerals, Burials and Teaching about Death in Other Religions

Zambian Tradition

1. Causes of death are said to be;
 - a. **Magic/witchcraft.**
 - b. **Spirits who have been offended.**
 - c. **A powerful curse.**
2. Some bury the body in the house where the person lived, in the area in front of his house or behind. As well as at the birth place of the person.
3. Often food, weapons, tobacco, clothing are buried with the body to 'accompany' him to the next world.

Christianity

1. Christians believe that man became subject to physical and spiritual death because of sin. Genesis 2:17, 3:19
2. The body dies but life continues in the spirit and soul.
3. Ephesians 2:1, 5 – For the unbeliever death is eternal.
4. The body is committed to the grave, with suitable prayers and scriptures. No extreme expression of grief such as wailing.

Islam

1. Muslims believe that death is not the end of existence.
2. There is life after death.
3. When a person dies, relatives gather at home. The body is washed, scented, and camphor is put on it. It is wrapped in a white cloth. People pay respects and view the face. If the body is female, only close relatives may view the face.
4. Each male takes a turn to carry the coffin at each of the four corners.
5. They go to the mosque first and prayers are led by an Imam.
6. 2 close relatives go into the grave and receive the coffin and lay the body to rest.
7. Mourners fill in the grave with sand and recite words from the Quran.
8. The day after the burial, people gather again at the Mosque to pray.

9. For 40 days all males of the immediate family visit the grave and offer prayers. On the 40th day people gather again in the evening.
10. When a woman loses her husband she stays at home for 4 and a half months and refrains from talking to people other than close relatives. She is called Iddat.

Hinduism

1. Hindus do not have burials. Dead bodies are cremated (burnt) usually besides a lake or river, or any open space.
2. Family members carry the body to the place and lay the body on a special place with firewood.

UNIT 7: JESUS' TRIUMPH OVER DEATH

Lesson 1 – Ideas about Life after Death

Some people believe death is the end of life while others believe there is life after death.

- A. The Widow's Son at Nain, Lk 7:11-16
- B. Jesus Raised Jairus' Daughter, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56
- C. Raising of Lazarus, John 11:1-44
- D. Teaching about Life and Death
Jesus has the power of life and death.

Lesson 3 – The Resurrection of Jesus, Lk 24: 1 – 48

The Women at The Tomb, Lk 24:1-12

1. At dawn on the third day after the burial of Jesus, the women; Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary mother of James, and others went to the tomb.
2. When they arrived they found the stone rolled away but they did not find the body of Jesus. 2 angels appeared to them and asked them why they looked for the living among the dead.
3. They told the apostles but their words seemed like nonsense.
4. Peter and John ran to the tomb and when they entered the tomb they saw the linen clothes rolled up. They went away with different reactions. John 20:3-10 and Lk 24:12
5. Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb after Peter and John left. She turned around and saw Jesus and 2 angels. She wanted to touch Jesus but He did not allow her because he must leave them again to return to his Father, John 20:11-17; Mk 16:9
6. Some of the Roman guards went to the chief priests and reported what had happened. Mt 28:11-15

The Disciples in the Upper Room

1. The disciples locked the room to discuss the appearances of Jesus but Jesus appeared and they thought he was a ghost. Jesus showed them the marks of crucifixion, asked them to touch him and asked for food to show that he was alive.
2. For 40 days, Jesus taught the disciples plenty of teachings after his resurrection. The disciples were to teach others and believers were to be baptized, these would be His followers. Jesus told the disciples that he would be with them until the end of ages.
3. Jesus took his disciples to Bethany, blessed them and at Mount Olives he ascended into heaven. The disciples were not in sorrow because it knew he was alive. Lk 24:50-53
4. The disciples returned to Jerusalem. The disciples began their work. Many believed Christ was working with them. Lk 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12

The Two on the Road to Emmaus, Lk 24:13-53

1. Jesus joined 2 disciples who were walking to the village of Emmaus. They did not recognize him.
2. When they arrived at Emmaus, they invited Jesus to stay with them and have a meal with them. They noticed the marks from the crucifixion and recognized that it was Jesus. Jesus immediately vanished. The 2 disciples hurried to Jerusalem to tell the others what happened.
3. Jesus appeared again especially to Peter. Lk 24:34; 1 Cor 15:5

Lesson 4 – The Meaning of Christ's Resurrection for the early Christians

Peter on the Day of Pentecost, Acts 2:22-36

1. Peter told the crowd what had been happening. God had kept his promise to send the holy spirit.
2. Peter referred to Psalm 16 to show that David could not have meant himself but was prophesying that the Messiah would rise from death and be glorified.

Paul Writes about the Resurrection, 1 Cor 15:1-58

Some people in the church at Corinth were denied the possibility of the resurrection v.12.

1. V.3-11 gives the historical facts of Christ's resurrection.

2. V.35-58, Paul anticipates the question, 'how can the dead be raised to life?' he described the body that is yet to be. For easy understanding, he illustrates from nature.

Lesson 5 – What Christians Believe About Jesus' Resurrection.

1. It is the confirmation that Jesus is the Messiah.
2. The climax of God's plan is Jesus' death and resurrection.
3. It shows that man can be reconciled to God through Christ.
4. The Christian faith is based on this belief.
5. For Christians, it means the power of God is greater than that of Satan.

Lesson 6 – What Christians Believe about Life after Death

What Christians Believe about Life After Death

1. Man has a spirit that will survive the death of their body.
2. The Bible clearly states that we shall be spirits with "bodies", able to identify each other and continue our individual existence. 2 Cor 5:1-8
3. The Lord, at the cross assured the thief that he will be with him. Therefore, death is not the end of everything.

What Christians Believe about Death and Resurrection Life

1. Physical death comes to all of us.
2. Read Philippians 1:23 and 2 Cor 5:8. Physical death separates soul and spirit from the body.
3. In the resurrection life, we shall know each other. We shall be known there as we are known here on earth. We will be called by these names. Rev 20:15
4. The resurrection body will be:
 - a. A God-given body.
 - b. A different body.
 - c. Immortal.
 - d. A beautiful body.

Lesson 7 – Beliefs about Life after Death in Other Religions

Zambian Tradition

1. By death a person becomes an ancestral spirit, but only those who died in an acceptable way and those with children.
2. The spirit of the childless dead become wandering spirits and may cause harm.
3. Some characteristics of the dead can be reborn into a new life.
4. Ideas vary from tribe to tribe.

Hinduism

1. Hindus believe that there is no death of the soul. After death, the soul can take another form and come back to the earth as another person or animal.
2. The more sinful you are, the more often you come back into this world.
3. A holy man does not come back into this world suffering.

Muslims

1. Muslims believe in life after death.
2. Every person's deeds will be presented before God for Judgement, and then God will decide the rewards and or punishments for each one.
3. If the good deeds outweigh the bad deeds, the person goes to paradise. If the other way round, he will be condemned to hell.

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