RELIGIOUS STUDIES NOTES

The Nature of God

Parts 1-3

When individuals have strong faith in God and obey His Word, He gives them power to live for Him. He also gives them power to fight and win their everyday battles.

Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save mankind. While on earth, Jesus performed many miracles. He healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, cast out evil spirits and even raised the dead. He was able to perform such miracles through the power of God.

JESUS AND HIS MIRACLES

The miracles Jesus performed impacted the lives of His disciples and others who witnessed them. The Bible tells us that many people believed in God because of the miracles Jesus performed. Many of the religious leaders, however, did not believe that God gave Jesus the power to perform miracles. They were jealous of Jesus and spread the lie that He got His power from Satan. (Mark 3)

Miracles still happen even today. Many people in modern times have experienced events they cannot fully explain. People

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have been healed of diseases, the blind have received their sight and people have been forgiven of their sins.

THE BIBLE

The Bible is divided into two main parts - the Old Testament and the New Testament. The New Testament is a record of Jesus' lifem and teachings. It is a collection of twenty-seven books written by a number of authors.

The first four books of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) are called the Gospels. The word 'gospel' means "good news." The gospel writers were so excited about their "good news" that they wanted to share it with others. They wanted people to know that Jesus was the Messiah. They also wanted to preserve the message of Jesus for future generations.

The four gospels teach about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The divine nature of Jesus is revealed in the gospels (Christ, Son of God, Lord, Saviour etc.). The gospels teach that God has power to perform miracles and to forgive sins. Lessons on how to live are included in all of the gospels.

Christians have been given the responsibility to spread the good news about Jesus to others (Matt. 28:19). Individuals can spread the good news by showing love and helping others. The good news can be also spread through the print media, television and the internet.

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