

SCHEME OF WORK

SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASS: SS1 TERM: 1ST

1. **Jesus teaching about himself.**
 - a. Jesus as the lamb of God, the door and the good shepherd Jn 1: 29-34, 10: 1-18
2. **Jesus teaching about himself**
 - a. Jesus as the light of the world Jn 3:19, 8:12, 9:4-5, 12:35-36, 1 Jn 1:5-7
 - b. Walking in the light
3. **Jesus teaching about himself**
 - a. Jesus as the living bread and water Jn 6:22-40, 4:7-15b. Jesus as the true vine Jn 15:1-7
4. **Love**
 - a. Meaning of love
 - b. God's love for man
 - c. Need for man to respond to God's love Jn 3:16, 18
5. **Love for one another**
 - a. Types of love for man
 - b. Qualities of love 1 Jn 4:7-8, 1 Cor 13:1-13
 - c. Various ways of showing love for one another and to one's country
6. **Justification by faith**
 - a. Meaning and need for justification Rm 3:22, Gal 3:9-21.
 - b. Faith in Justification
 - c. Fruits of Justification Gal 2:19-22, 5:27
7. **New Life in Christ**
 - a. Meaning of old life and living in sin Gal 5:9-29, Col 3:5-7
 - b. Characteristics of old life and need for change Rom 6:1-4
 - c. Characteristics of new life and need to stick to Rom 6:19
8. **Sonship**
 - a. Meaning of being the son of God
 - b. Jesus as the son of God Rom 3:17
 - c. Rights and responsibilities of Christians as children of God
 - d. Rights and responsibilities of citizens of Nigeria
9. **Faith and works**
 - a. Definition of faith and work Hebr 11, 3:8
 - b. Concept of faith as requirement for Salvation
 - c. James teaching on faith and work James 2:14-26
 - d. Compare and contrast James and Paul's teaching on faith and works
10. **Revision**
11. **Examination**

TOPIC: JESUS TEACHING ABOUT HIMSELF

a) Jesus as the Lamb Jn 1: 29-34

As Jesus approached river Jordan to be baptized by John, he proclaimed Jesus as the Lamb of God who will take away the sins of mankind by saying, behold the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. John said this because during the early days the Jews atoned for their sins by offering a year old lamb that is without defect believing that it will cleanse their sins and make them holy before God.

The reasons why John used the symbol of a lamb to describe Jesus was because, Jesus was meek, gentle and innocent like a lamb. Also as the sacrificial system used by the Jews to atone for their sins had no power to do so except the sacrifice that Jesus made through his death on the cross.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE LAMB

1. Since Christians accepted the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross, they must turn away from their sins.
2. Jesus is the Lamb of God so there is no need for us to recognize any other sacrifice for our sins.

JESUS AS THE DOOR JN 10: 1-11

Also, **Jesus identified himself as the "Door"**. Door was used to symbolize an image. It means that Jesus is the only gate entrance or door to eternal life. It is only those who believe in Him that will inherit the kingdom of God. It is only through Jesus that we can get solution to our problems and not through any other means.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE DOOR.

1. It is through Jesus that we come into covenant and communion with God.
2. Jesus is the mediator between man and God.
3. A thief came to kill, steal and destroy but Jesus came to give life.

C. JESUS AS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Jesus also identified himself as a good Shepherd.

As a good Shepherd he surrendered and sacrificed his life for the sheep. He also took care of the sheep. He displayed characteristics of a good and Shepherd as follows:

1. He calls his sheep by name
2. He leads the sheep to greener pasture rather than chasing them out.
3. He sacrificed his life to defend and protect his sheep.
4. He knows his sheep individually.

As a result of good shepherding and care of Jesus, we enjoy the following: blessings, salvation, protection from danger, atonement of sins, eternal life and security.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1. To encourage Christian leaders to lead by example.
2. Leaders should be concerned with the spiritual, moral and material welfare of the people.
3. Leaders should not be self-seeking.
- 4 They Should be totally Committed

JESUS AS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

Light removes darkness and & reveals hidden things. Light as was used in the bible expresses anything that saves us from evil of ignorance or guilt of sin.

Jesus is the light of the spiritual world while the sun is the light of the physical world. When the Sun Sets, the world becomes in dark, that is how the soul of man is dark without Jesus. Jesus is the light that had come into the world. He said that anybody who follows him by keeping his commandment will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Jesus showed that he is the light of the world by healing a man that was blind from birth.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE LIGHT

1. As good christians we Should manifest the light in our lives by avoiding evil deeds, be the light of the world as was revealed to us by Jesus Christ.
2. Christians should live an exemplary life to others teaching them to accept Jesus as the light of the world.

JESUS AS THE TRUE VINE

A vine is a source of life to its branches that is how Jesus is the source of life to its branches. Jesus is the vine while God the Father is the vine dresser. Any branch of Jesus that does not bear good fruit is taken away by the father. It is only when the branch is attached to the tree that it bears fruit. Therefore Jesus is the vine while Christians. So there is need for Christians to abide in Jesus so that they will bear fruit.

Anybody that refuses to abide in him will be cast off to wither and be burnt. To abide in him requires total commitment so that God will grant us salvation.

SIGNIFICANCE

1. Jesus is calling on Christians to be productive and responsible.
2. We must show by example that we are essential parts of Jesus.

JESUS AS THE LIVING WATER

As Jesus and his disciples were travelling, they came to a Samaritan village from there he sent his disciples to go and buy food for them to eat.

As Jesus was waiting for them, the Samaritan woman came to fetch water from the well called Jacob's well so Jesus demanded for some water to drink. The Samaritan woman was amazed that Jesus, a Jewish man was asking for water from a Samaritan while they don't relate well. So she turned down Jesus request.

Jesus then said to her "If you know the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, give me a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you a living water". The woman did not understand the meaning of living water so Jesus explained to her that living water means word of God that leads to eternal life.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE LIVING WATER

1. Living water is the word of God that leads to salvation.
2. The Salvation which Jesus brought is universal.
3. Since the living water brought by Jesus leads to eternal life, we should accept his teachings and abide by them to gain Salvation.

JESUS AS THE LIVING BREAD

Jesus as the living bread or bread of life means that his words and teachings strengthens and nourishes our soul.

A day after Jesus fed the five thousand, the multitude sought for him and found him at the other side of the Sea. Jesus told them that they were looking for him not because of the miracle but because they wanted to be fed again. He therefore urged them not to seek for the food that they will eat and become hungry again instead, they should seek for the food that brings eternal life which can only come from the son of man.

The people demanded to know from Jesus what they should do in order to be doing God's work. Jesus replied them to believe in whom God sent. He told them that the physical bread was a temporal relief from physical hunger but the living bread (his words and teachings) which anyone that eats will never be hungry.

SIGNIFICANCE OF JESUS AS THE LIVING BREAD

1. Living bread signifies the word of God.
2. Man should not live by bread alone but by the word of God.
3. Acceptance of the doctrine and teachings of Jesus Christ supplies our spiritual wants.
4. Faith in Jesus leads to eternal life.
5. Physical bread and the strength derived from it is perishable but true bread from heaven is real and imperishable.

TOPIC: LOVE

Love is a deep and tender feeling of affection for a person.

We can show love in various ways such as having interest in the spiritual, moral and material welfare of a person.

God demonstrated the greatness of his love when he sent his one and only begotten son Jesus to save us from our sins. This means that those who believe in him by accepting his sacrifice for us will not perish but have everlasting life.

LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER

In John's message, he explained that the greatest commandment is to love God and love for one another. This love is not shown through speech but by action. This means that we must show love to one another by having the welfare of that person at heart. So we cannot claim to love God when we do not treat our fellow human beings rightly.

Ways to show love to others are as follows:

1. When we are not rude to our leaders and elders.
2. When we help people to achieve their goals and objectives.

Qualities of love

1. Love is patient and kind.
2. Love is not envious.
3. Love does not boast.
4. It does not keep records of wrongs.
5. It never fails.

As God sent his son Jesus to save us from our sins which is a mark of love, we should also show love to others so that God will be happy with us and bless us abundantly.

TYPES OF LOVE

1. **Philia Love:** This is the type of love that exists between friends that share the same interest.
- 2 **Platonic love:** This type of love exist between friends but does not involve any sexual relationship. It is an affection that flows among friends.
- 3 **Storge love:** This is an affection that naturally exist between family members.
- 4 **Erotic love:** This is the type of love that exist between people of opposite sex. This type of love involves sexual relationship.
- 5 **Agape love:** This is the love that is expressed selflessly without anything attached to it. This is the love that God has for us.

TOPIC: JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH

To justify means to consider or declare someone to be righteous. Justification by faith is a condition whereby God declares someone innocent of his allegations and he is set free.

PAUL'S TEACHING ON JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH.

St Paul said that the basis on which God grants justification is by faith in Jesus and not by obedience to the law. According to him, man supposed to die because of his sins but God pardons him and set him free. It is through faith in Jesus that man is justified by God. This means that it is when we believe that Jesus suffered and died for our sins that we are set free by God and our sins forgiven.

Justification is an unmerited gift that is obtained by God's grace. The gift can neither be obtained through man's obedience to the law or through his righteousness, instead, it can be earned through faith in Jesus as the Saviour of the world.

Fruits of Justification

Fruits of justification according to Paul are peace and reconciliation with God. He emphasized that it is through Jesus Christ that we gain God's grace. This grace gives us hope and joy to partake in the glory of God.

Jesus died on the cross to reconcile and bring peace between us and God. Jesus Christ delivered us from sin which means that we are justified by his blood that was shed on the cross.

Significance of Paul's Teaching on Justification by Faith

1. The purpose of Paul's teaching on justification is for Christians to accept the salvation which God by his grace brought to us through Jesus Christ. When we accept and manifest this in our lives, we gain eternal life.
2. We should be peace with God and one another, settle dispute and also encourage others to be at peace with God by living a Godly life.

TOPIC: NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

MEANING OF OLD LIFE AS LIVING IN SIN

Old life means the kind of life lived by people before they become converted to christianity. It is a natural life of sin that opposes God and refuses to accept and obey the rules made by God. Old life is totally influenced and controlled by sin. Such life derives satisfaction only by committing sin. It is alive to sin but dead to God.

TERMS USED TO DESCRIBE OLD LIFE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

The flesh, the old nature, the natural man, the body of sin.

Old life displeases God and therefore separates man from God. It also leads one to physical death but with the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ, we can disengage from old life and become converted to Christianity. God expects us to progress in our relationship with him and never allow the influence of old life to control us instead; our life should be controlled by the Holy spirit.

CHARACTERISTICS OF OLD LIFE:

Idolatry, Adultery, Malice, Slander, Envy, Selfish, Hatred, Selfish Ambition, Discord, Drunkenness, Nepotism, Tribalism, Evil desire.

NEW LIFE

A person in the new life is being controlled by Jesus and God's by holy spirit. As old life is being leads to condemnation, judgment, death and eternal separation from God, new life leads to eternal life of joy and happiness in God's presence. When we change from old to a new life, apostle Paul said "if anyone is in Christ, there is a new Creation, everything old has passed away, See everything has become new".

The new life manifest God's promise and purpose for mankind. Despite the fact that Christ died to provide mankind with the new life, it is only those who recognize his suffering and resurrection by faith that will receive the new life for eternal salvation. In the new life, the sinner ceases to be known or referred to as a sinner, he now becomes a new creation and God's child. The Holy Spirit

now controls the believer and helps him to cultivate and enjoy the fruits of the Holy Spirit Such as love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, gentleness and Self Control.

CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW LIFE

Love, Humility, Compassion, Kindness, Patience, Forgiveness, Honesty etc

TOPIC: SONSHIP

Meaning of being the Son of God

God chose Jesus and declared him the Son of God. The relationship that existed between Jesus and God is spiritual one (divine). As God's creation, we are God's children but when we disobey him, we lose the right to call him our father. So the fatherhood of God is spiritual not physical. Before Jesus came, he pleased God by doing his will. He obeyed God's law for us to qualify as God's children.

Therefore, we become Sons of God through faith in Jesus and no longer under the rule (custodian) of the law. In baptism Christ made Christians to have Christ in their lives. In Christ therefore, we are one. There is no discrimination, neither the Jews nor Gentiles, slaves nor free born, male or female, race, sex, we are all one in Christ.

God sent his Son to redeem sinful mankind back to him, to make the Spirit of his Son Jesus operational in our hearts, to bring us into God's family and make us God's children with full rights of Sonship which is eternal life.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHRISTIANS AS CHILDREN OF GOD

When Christians become children of God, they have some responsibilities such as:

- They are expected to live according to the Holy spirit.
- To put to death the misdeeds or works of the flesh, to Share in Christ suffering and doing acts of mercy, kindness, love, charity, forgiveness, justice and fairness.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS OF NIGERIA

1. We should pay our tax promptly.
2. We should oppose all anti-Christian measures such as war.
3. We should abide by all the laws of the land.
4. We should cast our vote if we are of age to do so.

RIGHT OF CITIZENS OF NIGERIA:

1. Right to speech
2. Right to freedom of religion
3. Right to life
4. Medical care
5. Right to freedom of movement

TOPIC: FAITH AND WORK

Faith is an unquestionable confidence in God. It is an assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen.

Works on the other hand is the total demonstration of our faith.

It is practical confirmation of our religion. It is a trusted relationship between men and God. During the teaching of Jesus Christ, he revealed faith to us as a moral principle of good conduct. These moral principles of good conduct are put into practice in our daily life as Christians through works of charity, love, honesty.

JAMES'S TEACHING ON FAITH AND WORK (JAMES 1:22, 1:26)

Saint James urges Christians to be doers of the word and not hearers only. They should abide by God's words that was revealed to us by Jesus Christ during his teachings.

Jesus emphasizes that nobody can claim to be a good Christian without putting into daily practice the word of God that was brought by Jesus Christ. James insisted that faith must be applied into Christianity. True faith must be matched with actions and deeds. A balanced Christian life must include hearing and doing. James therefore illustrated his view by comparing someone who observes his face in a mirror without further examination of himself to a mere hearer of the word of God, while a doer is one who looks into the perfect law of Jesus which is the law of liberty and patiently hears and obeys the practices that he heard and receives God's blessing.

Also, James emphasized that doers of the word (truly religious people) must control their tongue. He therefore describes true religion as keeping oneself away from sin and visiting the widows as these are practical demonstration of faith.

Furthermore, James used two cases of Abraham and Rahab to explain his teaching that faith without work is dead. He said that Abraham was justified by works when God instructed him to sacrifice his only son Isaac at the altar.

Here, faith was brought to completion because Abraham demonstrated faith with work.

Rahab a harlot in Jericho also exhibited works when she welcomed and saved the messengers of God sent by Joshua during the conquest of Jericho.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PAUL AND JAMES TEACHING ON FAITH AND WORK

Paul believes that man is justified through faith without work while James has the opinion that man is saved by faith accompanied by work.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN JAMES AND PAUL'S TEACHING OF FAITH AND WORK:

- Both Paul and James used faith as a yardstick for salvation

QUESTION

- 1a. Explain Jesus as the lamb and the door
- b. State three significance of Jesus as the lamb
- c. Give two significance of Jesus as the door.
- 2a. Discuss how Jesus is the true vine.
- b. Explain what it means to abide in Christ
- c. State two consequences of not abiding in Christ
- 3a. List the qualities of love.
- b. Mention many ways of showing love to one another and to one's country
- 4a. Explain what being the son of God means.
- b. State the rights and responsibilities of Christians as children of God