

Teaching Plan - A New Year - new beginning

Aim - To show that God is always with us and has a good plan for our lives.



Welcome

What's in the bag? Items to do with a new year
Diary, calendar, plastic glass, shortbread.



Talk

Take time to ask everyone about Christmas and then move on to the new year - what did everyone enjoy. Take time over this.

Question:

Then bring out a blackboard/whiteboard. Before we think more about this new year ask everyone if they made any mistakes last year - if they did invite them to come and draw a cross on the board - once everyone has done that ask people to say sorry (silently) to God - then God forgives our mistakes and forgets about them -wipe all the marks off the board. Now we're ready for a new year. We don't know what's going to happen in this year, but God does.



Bible reading: Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.



Drama

Everyone was at a Hogmanay party - they were having great fun - singing, dancing, eating, drinking - **cheers everyone**. It was nearly midnight (**countdown from 10**) then everyone wished each other a happy new year.

On the way home 4 friends were talking about the new year and their plans.

Fred said he was going to eat healthier food - not too many chips and more salad - he wanted to lose some weight - **that's a good plan**.

Jean said she was going to go out walking every day to get fitter and healthier - **that's a good plan**.

David said he was not going to swear and get angry at people - he wanted to be kinder to everyone and smile at them more - **that's a good plan**.

Pat said she had tried all those things every year, and she gave up and just went back to being her usual self - eating chips too much, watching too much TV, shouting at people. Pat said she was going to try something new this year. She was going to get to know her friend Jesus better - **that's a very, very good plan**.



Talk

Question: How could we get to know our friend Jesus better?

- Reading Bible, listening to Bible on CD or get someone to read it to us.
- Talk to Jesus in prayer and ask him to help us.
- Come to group or church -or both.

Remember our Bible reading - God has a great plan for us in 20## (update to relevant year) and he will be with us whatever we are doing and wherever we go - **now that's the best plan ever**.



Prayer Time

In circle throw soft ball to each person - all say, "God bless you (name) in 20##". Before you start, explain that bless means give good things. Remember to mention anyone who has not been able to come to the group.



Possible Craft

Possible craft -a diary or calendar with Bible verse to stick on it.



Possible Songs

One more step along the world I go.
We are here together (Prospects)
Jesus love is very wonderful
Jesus is the king (Prospects)

To the tune of this old man

God has plans (point to heaven)
That we'll see (make binoculars with hands)
Special plans for you and me. (Point to a friend and then to self.)
Hands up, clap three times and slap on your knee!
Celebrate God's plans with me.

Special plans for work and play
And helping friends along the way. (Shake someone's hand.)
Hands up, clap three times let's shout, "Hooray!" (Raise arms and shout, "Hooray!")
Celebrate God's plans today!