

RELEASE DATE: 18th October 2024

BROADSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH @ BROADSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Over the course of the next few weeks our Assistant Pastor Steven Driver and our Youth and Children's Worker Sophie Phenix are visiting Broadstone Middle School to give talks during regular Religious Education lessons. Sophie will be giving us reports and feedback and this News Bulletin is **Part Three.***



Last Friday (11th October) we taught just one lesson at Broadstone Middle School. The class were extremely engaged and asked many great questions!

In each lesson, my confidence has increased with leading a part of the talk. I have been leading the first part of our talk which explains how Christians may interpret Genesis 1 in different ways.

Some people believe it is to be taken literally and others believe that it is more like poetry. However, all Christians believe that God created everything. I have then been taking them through the chapter, looking at what God created and what He calls good and explaining the forming and filling structure of His creation.

Each lesson, I have slightly changed how I have taught this section and each day I feel that the kids connect with it more and seem to understand and pull out what they can from the text as I am clearer with what I want them to look at.

This time, I wrote the questions down as they were asked instead of trying to remember what they asked afterwards.

Here are the questions we were asked:

- Do you believe in heaven and hell?
- Have you always been religious?
- Where will Jesus go when He returns? What country?

Continued overleaf

- What created God?
- What do you believe our purpose is?
- Who created the Bible and how do they know what happened?
- What do you find offensive – blaspheming?
- What do you think God looks like?
- What was there before the world?
- Why do people care about the creation of the world?
- What's the difference between Baptist and Church of England?
- Do you have any advice for someone who is exploring Christianity but can't keep up?
- What are angels? People who have died?

These questions have not only been great for the kids to have answered, but also, I have found it interesting to see what they will ask and how Steve would answer them. I have been able to answer some of them as well and bring in some of what I have learnt during my training at the School for Discipleship and at Wessex Gospel Partnership.

One particular question where this helped was when we were asked why God says that He is good and not that He is the best. I was able to talk about the different bible translations and how Hebrew words often have multiple meanings. Steve brought in language differences and mentioned different translations.

We have one more session this coming Friday (18th October). It will be sad to finish this teaching as I know I have really enjoyed it and found it beneficial, however I am looking forward to our final session and to see the questions that these kids will ask.

Sophie Phenix

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