

# Week 2 - The Torah

## Hear the Word of the Lord

A Lent course for the Diocese of Chichester's  
Year of the Bible

For youth



DIOCESE OF  
CHICHESTER

TO KNOW • LOVE • FOLLOW JESUS



YEAR OF THE BIBLE 2017

## Week 2 - The Torah

### ○ Aim

To give an overview of the first five books of the Old Testament known in the Hebrew Bible as the Torah or Law of Moses.

### ○ Learning outcomes

- What books make up the Torah.
- How important is the Torah to Jews.
- What does each of the five books contain.
- What does Jesus say about the law.
- What relevance does the Torah have to us today.

### ○ Materials Needed

Lots of toilet roll

Bibles - heavier the better

Teffilin accompaniment prinout

Large bowl (washing up bowl sized) of warm water

Towels and flannels

### ○ Video - 8 mins

Week 2 - Ben Leighton

This video can be found online at [youth.chichester.anglican.org/lent/videos](http://youth.chichester.anglican.org/lent/videos)

*It's up to you where in the session you use the video but either right at the start or after the icebreaker are both good places.*

## Start with prayer...

### ○ Bible Passage - 5 mins

The Bible passage can be read aloud from the front by the session leader or by one of the young people. Alternatively you may want young people to read a verse each around a circle or do something completely different, that's fine.

It might be fun to start with a game of **Bible cowboy**. You will need every young person to have a physical Bible. Every young person stands up with a Bible balanced on their head and takes the cowboy duel stance. The Bible reference is read out or

## Week 2 - The Torah

placed on a screen where everyone can see it. When the leader shouts DRAW it's a race to be the first person to find the passage and bring their Bible to the front to prove it.

It's also worth having a prize for the winner. So perhaps some mini chocolate bars are worth keeping on standby.

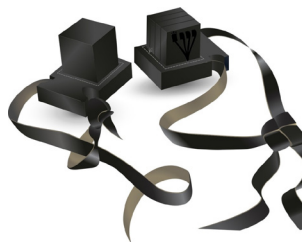
# Deuteronomy 6:1-9



## ○ Icebreaker - 15 mins

Break the young people up into teams or pairs depending on the size of your group. Each team must select a young person to have a bible attached to their body - ideally their forehead or arms using nothing but toilet roll.

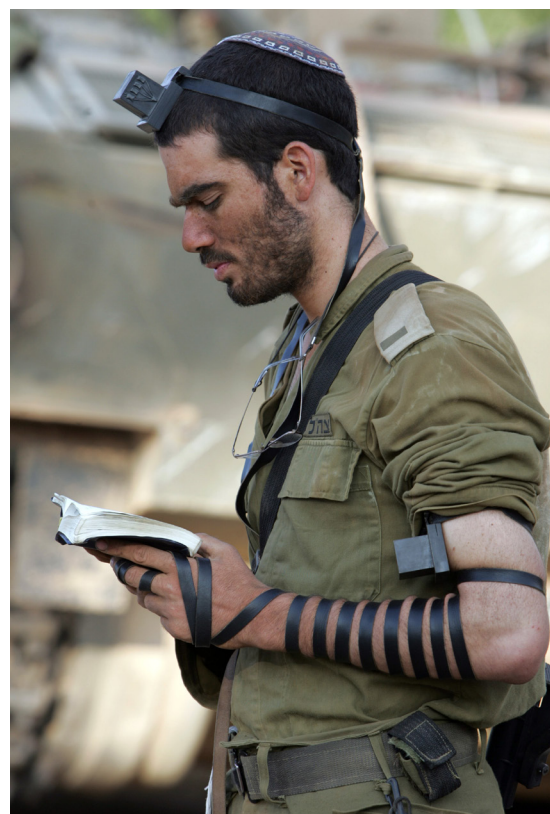
Show the image of a modern day Jew using Teflin or Phylacteries to pray - Image available to print out on the website.



## Teffilin or Phylacteries

*A small leather box which holds a verse of scripture and is strapped to the upper arm or forehead.*

The Torah commands that they should be worn as a sign and remembrance that God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt.



## Week 2 - The Torah

### ○ Discussion - 15 mins

In black are questions to read out to start discussion, in red are some pointers for guiding your discussion.

**How relevant do you think the Hebrew law is to our Christian walk today?**

*How much of the books of law do you know? What do you think of passages that say you shouldn't wear makeup or get tattoos? Is this relevant today or was it written only to the Israelites. Was this about separating themselves from other pagan practices they were associated with.*

**Jesus said in Matthew 5:17 he had come to fulfil the law, not to abolish it. What did he mean by this?**

*Jesus was saying that he did not come in opposition to the law, he loved it, cherished it. But his death sets us free from the binding nature of the law. You may want to guide the discussion to talk about Jesus setting us free from the Temple system of sacrifices.*

**When asked in Luke 10:27 Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and that the second is to love your neighbour as yourself. How do we demonstrate this in our every day lives?**

*How do we show our love to God? How do we show love to others around us? Is it enough to just not show hatred or be mean to others. Is there a difference between loving someone and not being mean to someone?*

### ○ Creative Worship - 15 mins

Get the young people to find newspaper articles that mention anything to do with new laws being introduced or being discussed. Perhaps they can find some online petitions that are protesting against a law or wanting to introduce a new one. Cut out these clippings and use them as a list of things to pray for. Include the people that make these laws and the people that they will impact.

### ○ Takeaway - 5 mins

Encourage every young person so commit random acts of kindness during the week. Tell them to bring stories along next week about how they've gone out of their way to help someone else. If they can bring evidence, even better.