



Y4 Spring

L2.3: Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?



THE INVESTIGATION

This investigation enables pupils to learn in depth from Christianity, exploring different reasons why Jesus is considered and inspiring figure by Christians – and by many other people too.

Trips: St. Dunstons Church, Stepney

Web Links: Introduction to Christianity: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdykjsx>

STEP 1: THE KEY QUESTION L2.3: Why is Jesus inspiring to some people?

STEP 2: SELECT LEARNING OUTCOMES Being clear about these outcomes will help you to decide what and how to teach.

EMERGING

EXPECTED

EXCEEDING

Pupils can:

Ask questions raised by the stories and life of Jesus and followers today, and give examples of how Christians are inspired by Jesus (B1).

Suggest some ideas about good ways to treat others, arising from their learning (C3).

Pupils can:

Make connections between some of Jesus' teachings and the way Christians live today (A1).

Describe how Christians celebrate Holy Week and Easter Sunday (A1).

Identify the most important parts of Easter for Christians and say why they are important (B1).

Give simple definitions of some key Christian terms (e.g. gospel, incarnation, salvation) and illustrate them with events from Holy Week and Easter (A2).

Pupils can:

Make connections between the Easter story of Jesus and the wider 'big story' of the Bible (creation, the Fall, incarnation, salvation – see unit L2.2), reflecting on why this inspires Christians (A1).

Present their own ideas about the most important attitudes and values to have today, making links with Christian values (C2).

STEP 3: SUGGESTED CONTENT FOR LEARNING

- Briefly explore what makes a person inspirational to others, identifying characteristics of a good role model.
- Explore creatively some words and actions of Jesus which continue to inspire Christians today e.g The Parable of the Two Builders from Matthew chapter 7; hot-seat characters, freeze-frame or act out stories; create artworks; collect pupils' questions, then find out how Christians interpret these by asking some.
- Use the events of Holy Week and Easter to find out why Jesus is so important to Christians today; how are the events of Holy Week celebrated by Christians, e.g. Palm Sunday, waving palms; Maundy Thursday, washing feet; sorrow of Good Friday services; darkness in churches on Saturday; light and joy of Easter Day.
- Explore the question: why do Christians call Good Friday 'good'? Include the terms incarnation (Jesus as God as a human being) and salvation (Christians believe that Jesus' death and resurrection opens up a way for people to be forgiven and get close to God) (see Unit L2.2 for more on these terms).
- Find out about the impact that believing in Jesus can have on a Christian's life and how Jesus has inspired some examples of contemporary inspirational Christians, e.g. how Christians show gratitude to Jesus for saving them and dealing with sin and death and bringing forgiveness – by prayer, worship, giving generously, telling other people about Jesus, caring for others.
- Introduce the belief that Christians cannot be completely good and so they rely on the Holy Spirit to help them follow Jesus and be more like him (see the 'fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22–23).



STEP 4: ASSESSMENT: Write specific learning outcomes.

Turn the learning outcomes into pupil-friendly 'I can' or 'You can' statements.

You might adapt these specific outcomes to form 'I can' statements (for pupil self-assessment), 'You can' statements (for teacher assessment), and 'Can you...?' statements (for next steps or challenge)

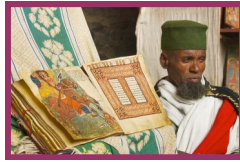
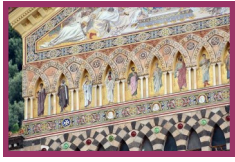
EMERGING	EXPECTED	EXCEEDING
<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Give simple definitions of key Christian terms (e.g. gospel, incarnation, salvation). Ask questions raised by the stories and life of Jesus and followers today. Give examples of how Christians are inspired by Jesus Suggest an example of how to treat other people relating to the Feeding of five thousand or the Unforgiving servant.</p>	<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Connect the story of the unforgiving servant with an example of Christian life or action. Connect the story of the feeding of the five thousand with an example of Christian life or action. Define clearly and illustrate key Christian terms by referring to events from Holy Week and Easter. Describe how and why Christians celebrate/mark Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter day. Identify the most important parts of Easter for Christians and say why they are important.</p>	<p>I can...You can...Can you...? Make connections between the Easter story of Jesus and the wider 'big story' of the Bible. Connect up ideas like sin, salvation and Jesus as God come to earth with the story. Give examples of why these ideas and stories inspire Christians. Present my own ideas about the most important attitudes and values to have today, making links with Christian values.</p>

Progression	At the end of key stage 1 most pupils will be able to:
<p>Know about & Understand A1. Describe, explain and analyse beliefs, and practices, recognising the diversity which exists within and between communities;</p>	<p>Recall and name different beliefs and practices, including festivals, worship, rituals and ways of life, in order to find out about the meanings behind them;</p>
<p>Know about & Understand A2. Identify, investigate and respond to questions posed by, and responses offered by some of the sources of wisdom found in religions and world views</p>	<p>Retell and suggest meanings to some religious and moral stories, exploring and discussing sacred writings and sources of wisdom and recognising the communities from which they come;</p>
<p>Know about & Understand A3. Appreciate and appraise the nature, significance and impact of different ways of life and ways of expressing meaning;</p>	<p>Recognise some different symbols and actions which express a community's way of life, appreciating some similarities between communities;</p>
<p>Express and Communicate B1. Explain reasonably their ideas about how beliefs, practices and forms of expression influence individuals and communities;</p>	<p>Ask and respond to questions about what communities do, and why, so that they can identify what difference belonging to a community might make;</p>
<p>Express and Communicate B2. Express with increasing discernment their personal reflections and critical responses to questions and teachings about identity, diversity, meaning and value;</p>	<p>Observe and recount different ways of expressing identity and belonging, responding sensitively for themselves;</p>
<p>Express and communicate B3. Appreciate and appraise varied dimensions of religion;</p>	<p>Notice and respond sensitively to some similarities between different religions and world views;</p>



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A Brief Introduction to Christianity

Christianity is the largest world religion at the moment.

It has over 2 billion followers, who classify themselves under 34,000 different denominations.

Initially, Christianity was derived from Judaism. Why? Because Jesus Christ was a Jew, and so were his twelve disciples. The religion is based principally around the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. With Christians believing in a only one God, the religion is also monotheistic.

Christians believe the Bible is the word of God, and although some choose to take it more literally than others, it is generally considered to be inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Beliefs and Principles:

Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the anointed saviour of the world and that his presence on earth was the fulfilment of the prophesies made in the Old Testament about the Messiah who was to come and save humanity from their sins.

This was achieved for Christians, by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, whereby he defeated Satan and paid the price for all the sin in the world. The consequence of this is. that anyone who accepts this belief, receives eternal life and freedom from sin. Christians hold that Jesus will return on Judgment Day to fulfil any outstanding Old Testament prophesies, judge the living and the dead and establish God's kingdom in the new creation.

According to the Gospels, Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem. Not much is said about Jesus' childhood, but his last years on earth were heavily documented in the Gospels. Christians consider Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension to be the most important doctrines in their faith. This is because Jesus shows his omnipotence over death and ultimately is the most convincing evidence for Christians that he is fully God.

The Bible itself is not debated within Christianity, only its interpretation. Many believe that it was intended only to be read as a story book, full of myths and moral messages. Others contend that the whole Bible is supposed to be read literally and then there are those who read the different types of books in the Bible differently, for example the Psalms as illustrative poems and the Gospels as facts.

Although Christianity is a monotheistic religion, Christians also believe that Jesus was God's Son and that He, and the Holy Spirit, are both also fully God, as well as being separate entities entirely. This is a concept many find hard to grasp, and some Christians choose not to accept, but the majority of Christians see it as an essential part of their faith. The Bible does not specifically refer to the Trinity, but it is a common doctrine and is included in the Nicene Creed which serves to outline the core beliefs of Christianity.

History and Origins:

The early church was founded by the Twelve Apostles, but this did not occur straight after Jesus' death and ascension. A great deal of persecution followed Jesus' ascension and many of his followers were killed and imprisoned simply because of what they believed.



Christianity only became legal in the fourth century, when Constantine I formed the First Council of Nicaea, which wrote the Nicene Creed. This creed is still used throughout the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. In 380, Christianity was officially made the religion of the Roman Empire. In the following years, it was declared that Jesus was both fully man and fully God, the books of the Bible were determined, and they also decided that the Nicene Creed was a permanent doctrine of the church at the Council of Rome.

After the demise of the Roman Empire, the church expanded its missionary work in the rest of the world and the faith spread widely through the Germanic, Slavic, Celtic, Viking, Finn, and Hungarian people. After about 630, Islam began to increase quickly and soon took over previously Christian countries such as Spain and most of North Africa. Also straight after the collapse of the Romans, monasteries began to form all over Europe, which started off as simple learning centres, but soon gave rise to the first universities, such as the University of Paris, Bologna, and Oxford. Their subjects expanded from just theology to include law, medicine, and philosophy.