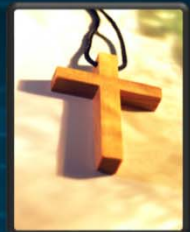




Christianity

WHO WAS JESUS?

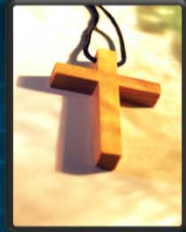


Learning Objectives

- All: will be able to describe who Jesus was
- Most: will be able to explain the life of Jesus and some of his teachings
- Some: will be able to consider why Jesus is so important to Christians

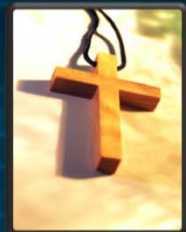
Key Words

- Jesus of Nazareth
- Christ
- Messiah
- Son of God
- Son of Man



Starter

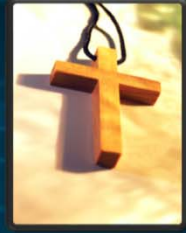
- Choose someone who you think is important.
- Write down why they are important and any particular characteristics they have shown.



Be prepared to feedback to the class

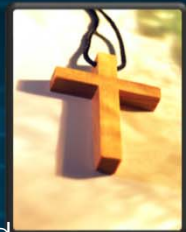


The Identity of Jesus



- Jesus was Jewish and was born a human being but the Bible describes his birth as a miracle. Christians believe that he was not conceived by human sexual intercourse, but by the power of God. This is called the 'Virgin Birth'.
- The Gospels say that when Jesus was about 30, he was baptised by his cousin, John the Baptist, who was a preacher. This was the beginning of Jesus' ministry, a period of about three years during which he travelled through Palestine (Israel):
 - preaching about the Kingdom of God
 - teaching people how to live in order to reach heaven when they died
 - healing people who were sick.

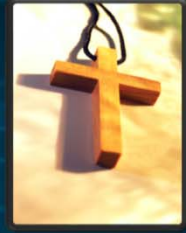
The Identity of Jesus



- At this time Palestine was ruled by the Romans. The Jews wanted to be free from Roman rule and hoped that God would send the Messiah (saviour) one day to lead them to victory over their enemies. As news of Jesus' teachings spread, people began to talk about him as possibly being this Messiah.
- Jesus said that he was not there to defeat the Romans. He wanted to help people by saving them from sin and to put them in a proper relationship with God.

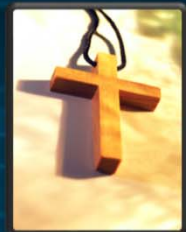
The Identity of Jesus

- Jesus' teachings were radical and he often clashed with the Jewish religious authorities. He was finally arrested by the Jewish leaders and tried on a charge of blasphemy, because it was said he had claimed to be the Son of God. He was sentenced to death and this was carried out by the Roman authorities.
- It is a central belief of Christianity that Jesus was crucified and then 'rose from the dead' (resurrected). Having come back to life, he appeared to his disciples on a number of occasions over 40 days when he then returned to heaven.

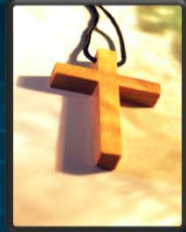


The Identity of Jesus

- Who were the Jews waiting for and what does the word mean?
- Why did Jesus not want to be called 'The Messiah'?
- What happened when Jesus left the earth?
- What four things had convinced people to believe that Jesus was the Messiah?
- What claim was Jesus making above all others when he saw himself as God's Son?
- What do you think Christians believe that Jesus was trying to do whilst he was on Earth?

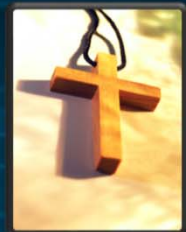


The Identity of Jesus



- Who were the Jews waiting for and what does the word mean?
 - *Messiah – anointed or chosen one (by God).*
- Why did Jesus not want to be called 'The Messiah'?
 - *He did not want to lead an uprising as he did not want there to be any bloodshed.*
- What happened when Jesus left the earth?
 - *Many of his followers spread his messages and teachings and claimed he was the chosen one sent by God.*

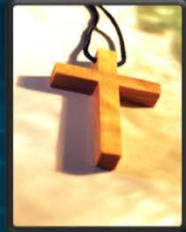
The Identity of Jesus



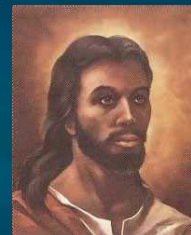
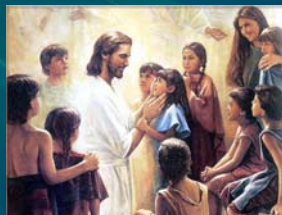
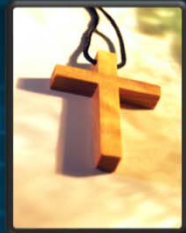
- What four things had convinced people to believe that Jesus was the Messiah?
 - *Fed large crowds miraculously, cast out demons, forgave sins, announced the coming of God's Kingdom.*
- What claim was Jesus making above all others when he saw himself as God's Son?
 - *That he was God as well as a human being – he had a special relationship with God.*
- What do you think Christians believe that Jesus was trying to do whilst he was on Earth?
 - *Bring people closer to God and teach them about God's love – to take away their sins.*

Images of Jesus

- No-one knows what Jesus looked like because there are no original pictures or descriptions of him.
- Look at the pictures on the next page.
- Discuss with a partner which you think is the most convincing and why.

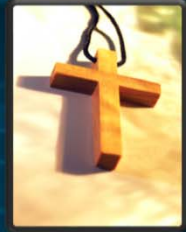


Images of Jesus



Images of Jesus

- In your books draw one of these:
 - a picture of Jesus
 - a diagram which tells someone about Jesus
 - a design which you think shows something important about Jesus.



Plenary

- In your books write down three important facts which you have learnt in this lesson.
- Share your list with a partner and see what you can both add to your lists.

