



R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

LESSON TITLE Who is Jesus?	LEARNING STAGE LKS2	WST TEACHER/DATE Mrs Tricia Bastable Mrs Johanna Jordan
AIM: To explore who Jesus was and the things he did during his life on earth. To understand the significance of Jesus' life, death and resurrection to Christians.	MAIN AREA/S OF LEARNING (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22) Beliefs and practices Sources of wisdom Justice and fairness	LESSON RESOURCES: WST will bring: School to provide: Vocab: Nativity; Parable; Crucifixion; Resurrection; Ascension.
LEARNING OBJECTIVE: To know who Jesus was and why Jesus is important to Christians.	Other AOL covered: Human responsibility and values	

Introduction:

The video starts with the question 'Who is Jesus?'

Tricia explains that this video will give an overview of Jesus' life and (briefly) explain why Jesus is so important to Christians.

We can read about Jesus' life in the New Testament of the Bible; in four different books written by different followers of Jesus: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (the 4 gospels – gospel meaning 'Good News') written around 60-100AD. Other books in the New Testament tell us more about who Jesus was and why he came to earth.

Jesus' birth – Nativity

Johanna tells the story of Jesus birth (The Nativity). Jesus was born in Bethlehem and explains with maps where Bethlehem is.

The angel Gabriel came to Mary and told her that she was going to have a special baby who would be God's Son. Mary was engaged to Joseph who agreed to marry Mary and help her raise this special baby. They travelled to Bethlehem to be registered and there Jesus was born in a stable or a place where animals were kept, because there was no space for them anywhere else. Jesus was laid in a manger, and had visits from the shepherds and the wise men who brought him special presents. Jesus' parents were warned by God in a dream that their lives were in danger. So, Joseph took his young family to the neighbouring country of Egypt, where they lived as refugees until it was safe to return to their homeland.

Jesus grew up in a town called Nazareth in Galilee in Israel.

We don't know much else about him as a young man but there are lots of stories about Jesus as a grown up.

Baptism & temptation in the desert

Tricia explains that Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan by John the Baptist. Baptised is performed by water sprinkling or immersion to symbolise a new beginning with God.

After Jesus was baptised, he spent 40 days in the desert, where he prayed and fasted. He was tempted by the devil during this time. We remember this time in Jesus' life during 'Lent'.

Jesus' ministry

Johanna explains how Jesus started his ministry by choosing his 12 disciples. Jesus told people about God using stories called 'parables' (stories with a hidden meaning).

She mentions 2 examples of parables:

- 'The Prodigal or lost Son'. A story about God love for people.
- 'The Good Samaritan'. A story about how people should treat each other.

She then asks children to think of an act of kindness they could do.

Johanna explains that Jesus performed many miracles and mentions some examples.

- Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding
- Jesus walked on water
- Jesus fed more than 5000 people with only 1 little boy's lunch of 5 small loaves of bread and 2 fishes.
- Jesus healed many people: he made blind people see and deaf people hear, he healed people with a severe skin disease called 'leprosy' and he healed people that could not walk.
- Jesus even brought people back from the dead. One of them being his good friend Lazarus who had been dead for 3 days.

She then mentions that Jesus changed many people's lives - not just through miracle – and mentions the example of Zacchaeus, a tax collector, who changed from a greedy person to a generous person.

She finishes by saying that Jesus told people 'that God loves everyone'. This made him popular among ordinary people, but unpopular with the religious leaders who planned to kill him.

Jesus' death and resurrection

Tricia then explains that Jesus knew about his death and announces this during the last supper where he shared bread (symbol of his body) and wine (symbol of his blood) with his disciples.

Jesus was betrayed by one of his own disciples – Judas. He was handed over to the Romans and crucified ('crucifixion'). The Bible says that Jesus died on the cross so that anyone who says 'sorry' to God for all the wrong things they do, say or think can be forgiven. Jesus' death is remembered on Good Friday. The cross is now the symbol of the Christian faith.

Jesus was buried in a tomb, but came back to life after 3 days ('Resurrection'). Christians celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Bible says that because Jesus came back to live and conquered death, anyone who believes in him will also have everlasting life with God in heaven after they die.

Later Jesus met with his friends and spent another 40 days on earth with them. After instructing his disciples, Jesus went to heaven ('Ascension'). Jesus' friends went on to spread the good news of Jesus across the world and were called Christians – followers of Jesus Christ.

Quiz & Activity

Johanna asks if the children remember the tricky words in the video:

Nativity = the story of Jesus' birth

Parable = stories Jesus told with a hidden meaning

Crucifixion = Jesus dying on the cross

Resurrection = Jesus coming back to life again

And suggests that children make a fact file or mindmap about Jesus. She gives a summary of the lesson as ideas to include in the mind map.

For further lesson plans, resources and support material visit
www.watfordschoolstrust.org or email info@watfordschoolstrust.org

