



R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

LESSON TITLE The significance of salvation - Easter workshop	LEARNING STAGE UKS2	WST TEACHER/DATE Mrs Bastable Mrs Jordan
<p>AIM: To know what Christians believe Jesus did to save human beings.</p> <p>LEARNING OBJECTIVE: To explore the significance for Christians of Jesus' death on the cross.</p>	<p>MAIN AREA/S OF LEARNING (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22)</p> <p>Sources of wisdom</p> <p>Beliefs and practices</p> <p>Other AOL covered: Justice and fairness Identity and belonging Symbols and actions Ultimate questions</p>	<p>LESSON RESOURCES WST will bring: 5 sets of filled Easter Story eggs Powerpoint presentation Design a T-shirt photocopiable worksheet Post-it notes</p> <p>School to provide: OHP with sound Felt pens/colouring pencils</p>

Introduction

Today we are going to think about why Jesus' death and resurrection is so important to Christians and so central to the Christian faith.

Introductory activity: Jesus lived over two thousand years ago and yet today he is still remembered, talked about and followed all over the world by more than 2 billion people (see www.reference.com). What makes a person memorable? Show PP slide of some famous people and give pupils the opportunity to discuss, in pairs, who they are and what, if anything they are or will be remembered for in the future. Briefly discuss as a class.

What is Jesus remembered for? What do you know about him? Share ideas as a class.

At Easter, Christians remember and celebrate Jesus dying on the cross and coming back to life – his death and resurrection. His death and resurrection are central to the Christian faith.

Main content

Small group activity: Re-cap the events of the Easter story, using filled Easter eggs (one set per group of 6 (max) pupils) to promote discussion. The eggs contain clues to important events that took place during Holy Week (the week leading up to Jesus' death). (Eggs contain palm leaf; 30p in silver coins; a small piece of bread/cracker; a nail and a toy soldier; a stone. One egg is empty. Challenge pupils to identify the parts of the story that the contents relate to and, if time, put into chronological order.

With input from pupils, summarise the Easter story, using the egg contents and supporting PP images from 'The Miracle Maker':

- Palm leaf – Jesus is welcomed into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday
- 30p in silver coins – Judas agrees to betray Jesus
- a small piece of bread/cracker – Jesus shares the Last Supper
- a nail and a toy soldier – Jesus is arrested and crucified
- a stone – Jesus is laid to rest in a sealed tomb
- empty egg – the resurrection - Jesus' friends discover the empty tomb

Class Activity Explore why Jesus died on the cross. Use slides to explain Christian understanding of original sin and free will in a simple way – God is perfect, made the world and people perfect – but people messed up! God wanted to create a way for people to be friends with him again. If they recognise their mistakes and ask God for forgiveness, all the things they do wrong (sins) can be put on to Jesus, who took them all with him to the cross.

To further illustrate and clarify, watch video from RE:quest website:

Independent activity With talking partners, pupils discuss:

- the key message of the film
- examples of sinning
- any questions that they have

Class activity This activity is designed to help you understand more deeply the significance of Jesus' death on the cross.

Think more deeply about the idea of sin, because the Bible says that it is people's sins that put Jesus on the cross.

Simply put, sins are the wrong things we think, say and do.

We all know (hopefully!) that lying, murdering and stealing are wrong and would be called sins. But what sort of things might we do on a daily basis that could be regarded as sinful and upsetting to God? Hint – often, things that we do to upset other people will be upsetting to God. Or, if someone's words or actions have upset us, do we think they would have upset God too?

Hand out post-it notes. Each child writes an example of a sin – use a sentence if possible - on a post-it note. Give examples – it could (but doesn't have to be) something you have thought/said/done, or have experienced other people saying/doing. Invite children to stick their post-its on to a classroom board or flip chart in the shape of a cross.

Ask the pupils to suggest reasons why we are using the shape of a cross. Christians believe that when they confess (admit) their sins to God and they are sorry for what they have done, God will forgive them, because of Jesus dying on the cross.

Independent activity Design a t-shirt that a Christian could wear, with words and/or symbols that convey something about the Easter message of salvation and forgiveness.

Come up with some examples of powerful words and symbols that might be appropriate – show examples (PP slides) and discuss images used e.g. cross (why is it empty?), heart, use of contemporary images like Apple logo.

Briefly discuss layout and choice of fonts – the t-shirt needs to be eye-catching, and its message understood in a moment.

Extension/enrichment activities

Write an acrostic poem using one of the following words: Easter, Forgiveness, salvation OR write an Easter poem in the shape of a cross.

Plenary

Why is the death of Jesus so significant to Christians? Christians believe that if they accept that Jesus died on the cross for their sins, and they say sorry to God, he promises to forgive them and they can be friends with him forever – even after their life on earth comes to an end.

Deeper Questions – Some possible follow up/class discussion suggestions

If God made the world, why isn't everything perfect?

What is meant by a soul?

Is heaven the same for all religions?

Class teacher's notes