

Waterbeach Community Primary School

Curriculum Capture for Year 6 Religious Education What did Jesus do to save human beings?

Key Knowledge and Beliefs

What difference does Jesus's sacrifice make to Christians?

The death and resurrection of Jesus are key moments in the Christian Bible. In the Old Testament, people would offer sacrifices of goat or lamb to show that they were sorry for their sins, but this would only bring them back to God until their next sin, which usually did not take long. Christians see Jesus's death as a sacrifice. He willingly sacrificed his own life for the greater cause of taking punishment for sins away from humans for all time. Many see this as part of God's intention – it was Jesus's sacrifice that allowed humans to be brought back to God permanently.

Who was responsible for Jesus's death and what impact did his sacrifice have on Christians?

Within the Bible, many different people had a part to play in the death and sacrifice of Jesus. These include: Pilate, Judas, the Romans, the Sanhedrin, the crowds, the soldier with the hammer, God and Jesus himself. Christians believe in Jesus's sacrifice and continue to live their lives by his teachings. People who are not Christians might say that Jesus demonstrated love, friendship, service, wisdom, generosity, humility and courage as well as self-sacrifice.

What is meant by the 'Suffering Servant?

In Isaiah 53, the prophet describes his version of the Messiah, a servant who suffers for the sake of all mankind. At the time of writing, the 'suffering servant' referred to the people of Israel themselves. They were going to suffer on behalf of other nations, however some also saw it as pointing towards a rescuer or messiah who would come at some point in the future to save Israel. For Christians, the New Testament shows that the words apply to Jesus. Reading John's Gospel account of Jesus's death makes some of the links with Isaiah more explicit, emphasising the idea of sacrifice.

What impact does sacrifice make and what sacrifices do people take for a cause?

Sacrifice can be made by all people and does not have to be as dramatic as sacrificing one's life. People sacrifice their time, lifestyles, goals and so on for greater causes. There are many examples over the last 2000 years of people making sacrifices for Christian ideals, giving the very best of themselves to spread the Gospel and to serve others, such as Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King, Desmond Tutu for example.



The Last Supper is the final meal that, in the Gospel accounts, Jesus shared with his disciples in Jerusalem before his crucifixion. The Last Supper is commemorated by Christians especially on Maundy Thursday.



Eucharist is a Christian ceremony that celebrates the Last Supper, in which bread and wine are consumed. Many Christians believe that the bread represents Jesus's body and the wine his blood.

Vocabulary	
Crucifixion	A method of punishment where the victim is tied or nailed to a large wooden beam and left to hang, sometimes for days.
Sacrifice	Giving up something valued in order to help someone else.
Messiah	Someone who is a leader and saviour.
Saviour	A person who saves someone or something from danger or difficulty.
Martyr	Someone who willingly suffers death for their religious beliefs.
Salvation	Being delivered from sin and its consequences, believed by Christians to be brought about by faith in Christ.

Key Texts and Links

The 'Suffering Servant' - Isaiah 53 https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+53&version=NIV

An account of Jesus's death – John 19:16-42 https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+19%3A+16-42&version=NIV