



Highsted Knowledge Organiser

Religious Education

Year 8 Terms 3 & 4: The life of Jesus

What I need to know

- Jesus as God incarnate
- The story of the birth of Jesus
- The nature of Jesus' early life
- The baptism of Jesus
- Jesus being tempted by the Devil
- Jesus' teachings and miracles
- The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus
- Arguments for and against Jesus being an 'ordinary man'

Key Vocabulary

Jesus
Jewish
Son of God
God incarnate
Gospels
Baptism
Miracles
Omnipotent
Crucifixion/Resurrection

Jesus as God incarnate: Christians believe the Jesus was God incarnate: God in human form. This links to Christian beliefs regarding the Trinity: God the father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit

The story of the birth of Jesus: The nativity story covers the birth of Jesus, and are contained within the Gospels of Matthew and Luke in the New Testament of the Bible. Christians believe that a virgin named Mary gave birth to Jesus in a town called Bethlehem. The nativity story tells of shepherds and wise men coming to visit Jesus following his birth.

The nature of Jesus' early life: Jesus was raised by Mary and her husband Joseph, in Nazareth. The Bible does not contain much information about his early life following his infancy, but there is an account of Jesus being lost at the temple. When his parents realise that he has been left behind at the temple, they come back and find him teaching the elders at the temple, who are stunned by his knowledge and wisdom. Jesus said to them: "Did you not know that I must be at my father's house?"

The baptism of Jesus: Jesus came to John the Baptist while he was baptising people in the River Jordan. John tried to make him change his mind, but Jesus answered, "In this way we will do all that God requires." So, John agreed. As soon as Jesus was baptised, he came up out of the water. Heaven was opened and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear son with whom I am pleased."

Jesus' teachings and miracles: Jesus selected 12 disciples who would be his main followers. He began his ministry, which is recorded in the four Gospels. His ministry included many miracles, including walking on water, healing and casting out of demons.

The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus: Jesus was accused of blasphemy by the Jewish authorities. He was sentenced to death by crucifixion. However, Christians believe that Jesus came back to life after three days. These events are celebrated at Easter.

Arguments for and against Jesus being an 'ordinary man': Christians believe that Jesus was certainly not an ordinary man: they believe he was God in human form. However, others may believe that a man called Jesus existed, but that supernatural elements to his existence may have been added over time.

Challenge question:

To what extent do the teachings of Jesus still apply to modern-day society?

Suggested reading:

<https://christianity.org.uk/article/who-was-jesus-was-he-real>