

Year 8 Term 5: What is so radical about Jesus?

Theology = this is about 'believing'. It looks at where beliefs come from, how they have changed over time, how they are applied in different contexts and how they relate to each other.

Key vocabulary

Rebel = a person who rises in opposition or armed resistance against an established government or leader; a person who resists authority, control or convention

Pharisees = A Jewish sect, distinguished by strict observance of the traditional and written law.

Criticism = The expression of disapproval of someone or something

Adultery = cheating on your spouse (husband/wife)

Parable = a story told to teach a moral or a lesson

Radical = wanting to change an established order or behavior; going against the 'norm'

Manifesto = a published declaration of the intentions, motives, or views of the issuer, be it an individual, group, political party or government

Meek = Quiet, gentle, and easily imposed on; submissive

Mild = Gentle and not easily provoked

Zakat = Compulsory giving; 'purification' of the heart from greed; 2.5% of annual income; more of a tax than charity

Sewa: Selfless service to others

What evidence do we have that Jesus could accurately be described as 'meek' and mild'?

Mutual respect



Tolerance

Jesus definitely didn't take the easy route. He deliberately interacted with those who were considered outcasts in society and those who people shunned and ignored. He was then considered to be an outcast himself!

"Why does He eat with tax collectors and sinners?"



Key points

- Roman religion = polytheist
- Judaism = Monotheist
- Invasion by the Romans
- Taxes enforced
- Revolutions caused war, which results in death and poverty and destruction

1st century life

- Rome was the largest city in the world
- Jewish girls could marry as early as 12 years old and a day
- Women had almost no legal rights
- Infant mortality rates were very high - only about 75% of babies survived their first year

Why is it important that we understand the 'context' in which Jesus was born, lived and died?

How do these organisations follow Jesus' example of being with those in need?



Street pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their community.

They patrol in teams of men and women, usually from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on a Friday and Saturday night, to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets.



Equality
Freedom
Healing
LIBERATION

Is there such a thing as a "selfless good deed"?

"Do not commit adultery"
Exodus 20:14

Jesus cleanses the temple
Mark 11:15-19



The parable of the lost sheep
Luke 15: 1-7

A Woman Caught in Adultery
John 8:1-11

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs"
1 timothy 6:10

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you"
John 15:12

The rich man and Lazarus
Luke 16: 19-31