

KS2a Unit 4, Lesson 4: Baptism

Context: Previously pupils will have explored the practise of infant baptism, including related symbolism, and know that older people can also be baptised. They will know that through baptism, a person is welcomed into the Christian church.

Overview:

- Children will understand the importance of baptism to Christians.
- Children will know that some Christians choose to have their children baptised as babies and some Christians wait until they are able to make their own profession of faith.
- Children will be able to link the practise of baptism to the story of Jesus being baptised, and to Jesus' command to baptise new believers

Essential core: Identify how different kinds of Christian might do the same things in different ways (e.g. baptism).

Resources: Miracle Maker DVD or RE:quest stills <http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/09/16/introduction-to-baptism>

RE:quest introduction to baptism: : <http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/09/16/introduction-to-baptism> resource sheets with pictures of infant and believers baptism, in churches and other locations, verses from the bible, stills from the film etc.

Vocabulary

Christian; relationship; Jesus, Bible, baptism, christening

INTRODUCTION:

Remind children of the question we are looking at: What does it mean to be a Christian?

Ask children to think about the last time they had a bath or shower, and the reasons why people bath, shower and wash themselves.

Show them a picture of a child being christened/baptised and ask what they think is happening - this will help you to assess how much children remember about infant baptism. Discuss the fact that infant baptism is a sign that the child is welcomed into God's family and that their family promise to bring them up in the Christian faith. But where did it all start?

Show video from 'Miracle Maker' of Jesus being baptised by John in the Jordan river (7.58-10.10) (Or stills from this which are on REQuest website <http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/09/16/introduction-to-baptism>

Look up Matthew 28.18-20 and watch Miracle Maker 01:22:02-01:22:40

DISCUSSION:

Why do Christians get baptised? Jesus was baptised himself, and instructed his followers to baptise new Christians. It's a sign of a new life, washing off your old life and starting again your new life in God.

Watch RE:Quest introduction to baptism: <http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/09/16/introduction-to-baptism>

Children fill in sheet: 'Baptism, how, when, where, why' using what they have learnt so far in lesson and their previous learning. You could have resource sheets with pictures of infant and believers baptism, in churches and other locations, verses from the bible, stills from the film etc. displayed for children to use as they fill in their sheets, and laptops available with the film from RE:Quest

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/06/13/christianity-unpacked-baptism-dedication-and-confirmation>

PLENARY:

Reflection: You could play some quiet music or light a candle for children to look at.

Christians think of baptism as a sign of starting again, of having new life in God. Ask children to think about whether there is there anything they would like a new start with? What could they do as a sign of a new start? Invite them to think quietly about their new start, or to say a prayer if they want to.