

L.I. To explain the meaning of theological terms and show an understanding of incarnation.



Help!

On your tables are some sheets of paper with the following situations on them...

- You are being bullied.
- The school wants to take Year 5 and 6 on a residential trip.
- A mum can't find a job and is worried about being able to feed her family.
- A boss of a company will not promote people from different faiths.
- You have fallen over and hurt yourself on the playground.

You are going to move around the tables and add the qualities a person would need to solve each of the situations on to each sheet of paper.

Who can help out or 'save' the situations?



In RE this term we are going to think about...

Incarnation and the question 'Was Jesus the Messiah'?

Before we start what do you know about Jesus? Why do you think he came to Earth?

The Big Frieze (The Story of Christianity)



The Old Testament



The New Testament



We are about to start studying the New Testament of the Bible...

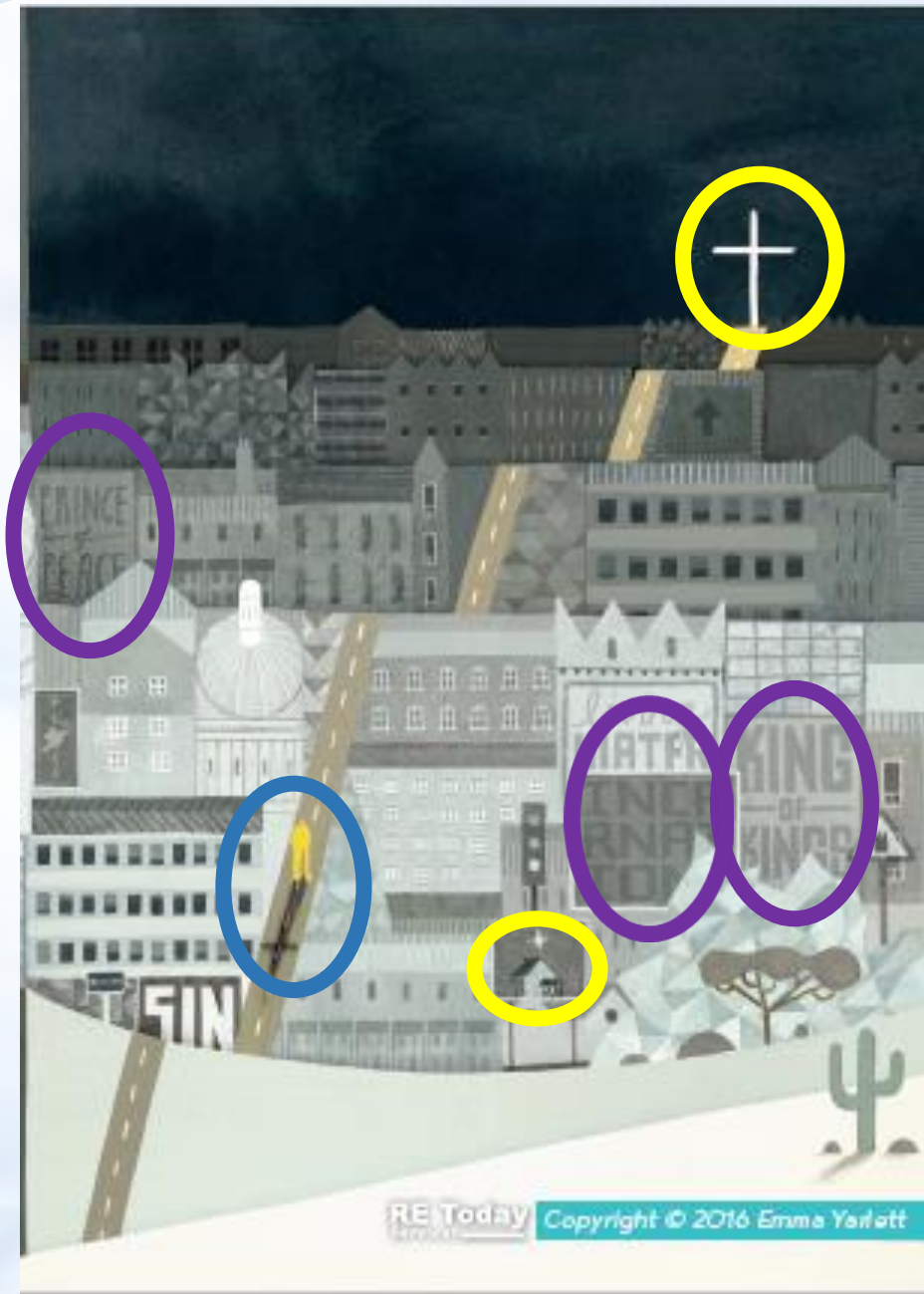
- Which panels of the Big Frieze show the Old Testament of the Bible?
- Which panels show the New Testament?

The story so far...

People of God (try to sort out the problem)

- The People of God were taken into exile in Babylon in 586BCE.
- They return after about 50 years, but their Promised Land is still occupied by foreign forces.
- They begin to have a New Hope - God will rescue them!
- He will send a rescuer, a saviour - a Chosen One or Messiah.
- This is the situation when the Old Testament ends.
- However, the land remains occupied by different forces - at the start of the New Testament, this is by the beastly Romans.
- The people have been waiting a long time - and some are despairing, but some still hope...





Incarnation (unexpected solution)

- This panel focuses on the coming of Jesus.
- The People of God fail to overcome the effects of the Fall and they continue to sin.
- So God puts the next phase of the 'rescue operation' into motion, as it were, by sending Jesus, God 'incarnate', in human form.
- In a dark world, Christians believe Jesus does more than tell people how to live - he shows them.
- This shows Jesus' path from the poverty and simplicity of a human birth, to death on a cross, an act of self sacrifice.
- Some of the names Jesus is given are shown along with signs of his role.
- The golden colour of the lonely figure of Jesus, and the path he is on, hints at the riches that will be available to people if Jesus completes his mission.



Incarnation (unexpected solution)

- What does the word **incarnation** mean?
- What does the word **Messiah** mean?

- **Incarnation:**

Incarnation is when a deity (a god or goddess) takes human form. In Christianity, this is believed to have happened when God came to Earth as Jesus. This occurred through Jesus being born to the Virgin Mary. Though Jesus is described as the 'Son of God', Jesus is a part of God. He is both God and human.

- **Messiah:**

- 1 *The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.*
- 2 *Jesus regarded by Christians as the Messiah of the Hebrew prophecies and the saviour of humankind.*
- 3 *A leader regarded as the saviour of a particular country, group, or cause.*





Why would God want to take human form?

As a pair, discuss this question and write an answer on your whiteboard.

I may ask you to explain your answer in more detail.



You have two minutes!



Why is the incarnation significant to Christians today?

As a pair, discuss this question and write an answer on your whiteboard.

I may ask you to explain your answer in more detail.

You have two minutes!



Independent Learning

Write the following words as sub headings in your book and write a definition for the words:

Incarnation

Messiah

This term you are going to be investigative journalists and you have been employed to answer the question.

**Was Jesus the hoped-for Saviour?
Was Jesus the Messiah?**

- Copy the questions into your book.
- Underneath these questions write the heading 'Characteristics' and then write a list of the characteristics this person will need to have — a Saviour who could rescue the People of God in their current situation.