

Y8 Term One: Christianity in Britain

Key terms:

1. **Martyr** - Someone who dies for their faith
2. **Monk** - A man who dedicates his life to God
3. **Monastery** - A place where Monks live, pray and work
4. **Tithes** - A 10% offering of money given to the Church (like a tax)
5. **Monarchy** - A country controlled by a King or Queen
6. **Defender of the Faith** - Title given to Henry VIII
7. **Indulgences** - Payments made to the Church to get into heaven
8. **Church of England** - The Church created by Henry VIII
9. **Protestant** - Someone who protested against the Roman Catholic Church

Early Christianity

Christianity "post-Christ": The minority faith, beginning with how the Gospel spread from Jerusalem, to Rome and across the Empire. The persecution of Christians happened in the arenas of the Empire as Christianity was illegal for many years, until Emperor Constantine had a vision from Christ and then converted to Christianity on his deathbed. We thought about whether this was a true conversion or just a bit too convenient.

Paul's Journey West

Paul's Journeys West: St Paul had a dramatic conversion from being a persecutor of Christians to be a super apostle. You can read his story in the book of Acts 7-9. He travelled all over the Mediterranean and into the west. Paul's journeys are recorded through his letters to the churches he planted in these areas, such as Corinth (Corinthians) and Ephesus (Ephesus). St Paul was one of the first apostles to spread the good news to Gentiles (non-Jews). He eventually met his death as a martyr in Rome, but his impact on the spread of Christianity is huge.

Faith brought to Britain

Christianity comes to the British Isles, brought by the Romans, but what was it like to be a British Christian? We learnt about some of the famous examples of early British Christians such as St Aidan of Lindisfarne and St Hild of Whitby who established monasteries in the north of England which were places of mission and learning. Monks lived in monasteries - monasteries were often the first schools, hotels, universities, law courts, hospitals as well as churches. Monks had to live lives of chastity, poverty and obedience following the example of Jesus.

Other Christian views on the Pope

Christians who are not Catholic are called Protestants. Protestants do not recognise the Pope at all. They do not believe that he is a direct link to Peter who is believed to have been elected the first Pope by Jesus. Protestants believe that no one has the ability to represent Jesus on earth today.

King Henry and the Reformation

King Henry VIII, The Reformation and beyond: Martin Luther caused ripples across Europe, but when Henry VIII decided to make himself head of the Church of England, was he following Luther's ideas, or taking advantage of the power struggle in the Catholic Church to gain its wealth in England? We look at the changes in society that result from the reformation of the church in England and the dissolution of the monasteries, how the changes affected Catholics, the persecution of priests and secret worship

Controversy & Corruption

The medieval church had problems, indulgences, rich churches, poorly behaved clergy and members of religious orders. This often resulted in the exploitation of worshippers. We looked at Martin Luther (a German monk) and his 95 theses (complaints against the Church), this had a huge impact resulting in the Reformation (change) of the Catholic Church. One of his main teachings, the 5 Solas - 1. saved by grace alone, 2. through faith alone, 3. in Christ alone, 4. according to scripture alone, 5. for the glory of God alone - was influential in the creation of the Protestant Church.