

Year 7 Term 4: A history of Christianity: Where did Christianity come from?



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

Conversion = changing from one to another

Apostle = an important early Christian teacher or pioneering missionary

Disciple = a personal follower of Christ during his life

Schism = a split or division

Creed = a statement of belief

Great commission = to spread the good news to all nations

Persecution = hostility and ill-treatment due to personal beliefs; oppression

Missionary = a person sent to spread the word of Jesus, especially abroad

Martyr = someone who willingly suffers death in the name of their beliefs

Gentile = a person who is not Jewish

Gospel = ‘Good news’; the record of Jesus’ life & teachings in the first 4 books of the New testament

There are still some circumstances in the 21st century, where Christians are persecuted because of their beliefs. One example is the bombing of Christian churches around the world. CFI and Open Doors help by:

- training Christians and church leaders to support them through the trauma they may have suffered
- providing advice and support to Christians who have been victims of disaster
- speaking on behalf of Christians to help raise awareness of the situation they are in



‘And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved’
~ Matthew 10:22

Crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus <i>AD 33 approx.</i>
Pentecost <i>AD 33 approx.</i>
Martyrdom of Stephen <i>AD 34 approx.</i>
Saul’s conversion <i>AD 33-36 approx.</i>
Death of Peter <i>Rome, AD 64-68 approx.</i>
Roman persecution <i>AD 64-313 approx.</i>
Constantine’s conversion <i>AD 313</i>
Council of Nicaea <i>AD 325</i>
Christianity comes to Britain <i>AD 597 approx.</i>

‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’
~ Acts 9:4

‘I see Heaven open & the Son of man standing at the right hand of God’
~ Acts 7:56

‘There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus’
~ Galatians 3:28

‘I will make you fishers of men’
~ Matthew 4:19

‘We believe in one God, the Father almighty’
~ Nicene Creed