

Easter Tuesday 2021

Reflect

Why do people use stories to explain a difficult idea? What does it mean to be successful? What does it mean to be powerful? Why do people get jealous when someone is popular and successful?

Watch

Watch the following clip and reflect on how the different characters in the story must have been feeling. <https://youtu.be/HL8R158Ujp4> **Why was Jesus such a strong teacher? Why did people want to listen to him?**

Read

Read the Bible story in Matthew 20: 21-22 and Matthew 21:23-23:39. **What is going on in each story and what do you think each story suggests about what Jesus was like?**

Respond

Holy Tuesday was a day of avoiding traps and teaching. On Tuesday morning, Jesus and his disciples returned to Jerusalem. They passed the withered fig tree on their way, and Jesus spoke to his companions about the importance of faith. Back at the Temple, religious leaders were upset at Jesus for establishing himself as a spiritual authority. They organised an ambush with the intent to place him under arrest. The Priests set traps for Jesus, questioning His authority and they challenged Jesus' allegiance (who he put his trust in), They also attempted to ridicule Jesus' belief in resurrection. But Jesus avoided their traps. **Why do you think that Jesus stayed strong even though he was treated badly and knew he would be put to death?**

Listen

Listen to the following track by Take That. Think carefully about the words and how they can be applied to the Easter story? Which characters might feel like this?

<https://youtu.be/VQ4ziRhLGCE>

Act

Despite all of the chaos, the lies, the deceit, the hatred and the uncertainty, Jesus remains calm and shares stories of hope with his disciples. Jesus shows us he is fully in control as he responds with grace and truth to traps on all sides. He knows what he is doing. And he knows what is coming and yet he does not respond with violence.

Could you think of times when you could be calmer and kinder to others? How might you stand up against things that are wrong? What injustices might you try to challenge? Look at Amnesty International and consider how you might be able to get involved.

Pray

Dear God, When we feel that we are struggling and have no where to turn, let us place our hope and trust in you. When we feel lonely and scared, when we feel that nobody cares, let us place our hope and trust in you, the source of all that is good. Amen