## 'Christianity: Creative ways to explore and unpack Biblical texts'

Sarah Sprague

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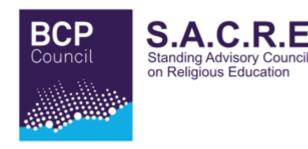








A local, regional, national day of 'Re-Juvinating and Re-Inspiring RE' with thanks to colleagues from Wiltshire, Dorset and BCP SACRES.







S.A.C.R.E

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#### Aim:

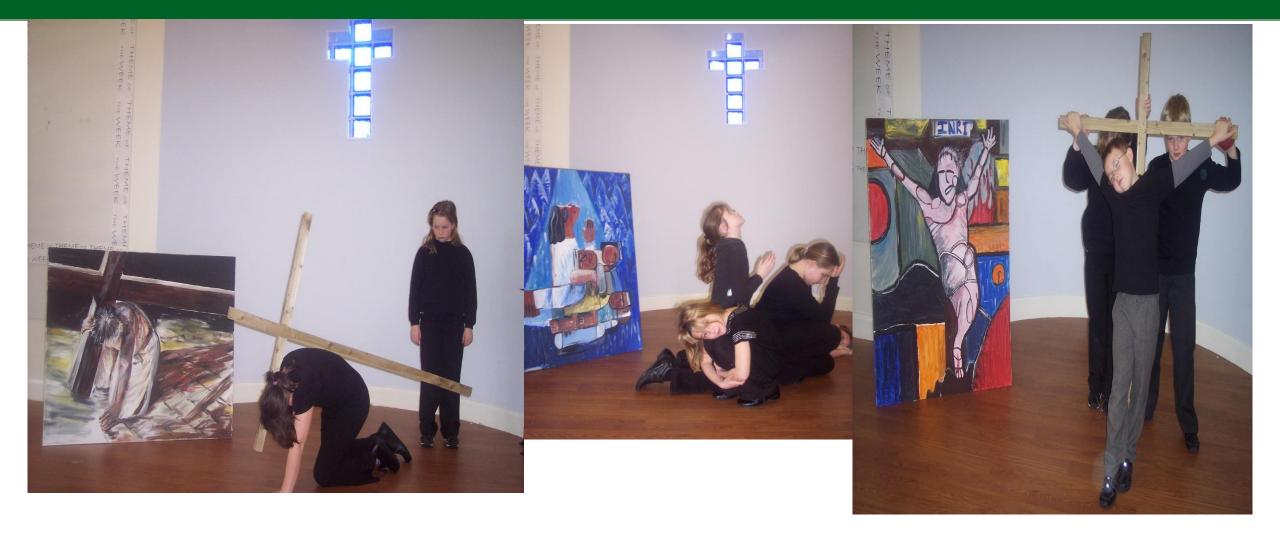
• To explore different ways to unpack Biblical text using a range of creative and performing art resources - focusing on Biblical texts that tell the Easter story.











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#### IMPACT, AWARENESS, CONNECTION, UNDERSTANDING



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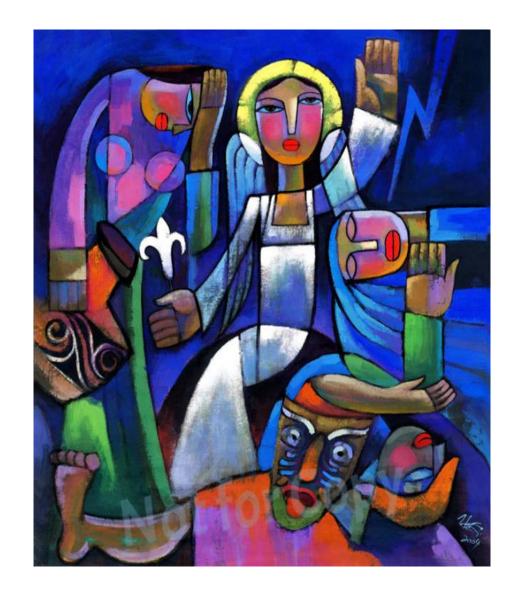




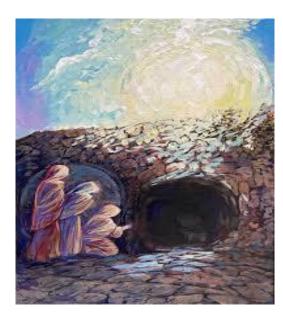
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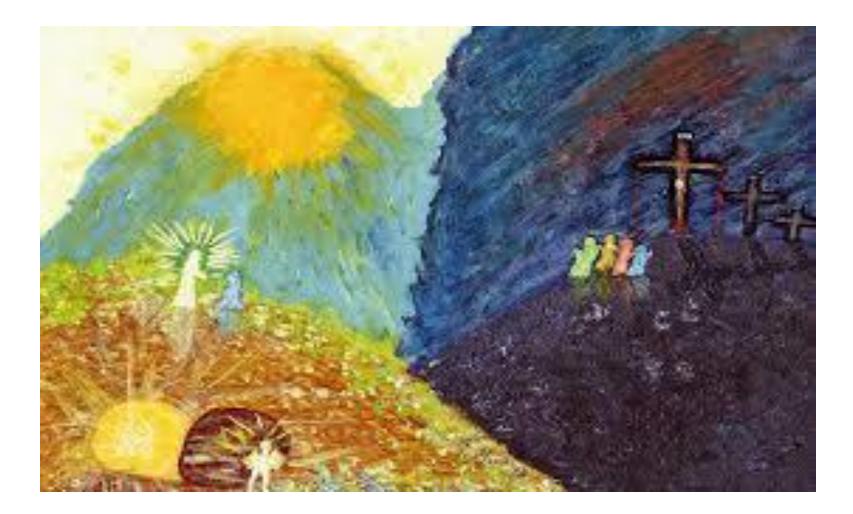


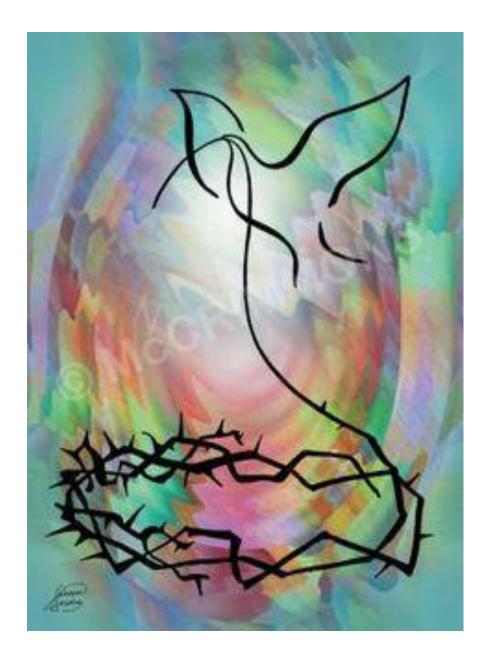
#### Resurrection by different artists











# Stations of the cross – a creative journey of discovery -

- 1. Pilate condemns Jesus to die.
- 2. Jesus accepts his cross.
- 3. Jesus falls for the first time.
- 4. Jesus meets his mother, Mary.
- 5. Simon helps carry the cross.
- 6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus.
- 7. Jesus falls for the second time.
- 8. Jesus meets the three women of Jerusalem.
- 9. Jesus falls for the third time.
- 10. Jesus is stripped of his clothes.
- 11. Jesus is nailed to the cross.
- 12. Jesus dies on the cross.
- 13. Jesus is taken down from the cross.
- 14. Jesus is placed in the tomb.

Stations of the cross for children 1

#### 1. STATIONS OF THE CROSS – A JOURNEY OF LEARNING Stations of the Cross – in the Bible

Station No	Station Name	Scripture Ref	Bible Gateway Link	Extract
1	Jesus is arrested and taken before Pilate	Matthew 27:21-26	https://www.bibl egateway.com/pa ssage/?search=Ma tthew+27%3A21- 26&version=ICB	<ul> <li><sup>22</sup> Pilate asked, "What should I do with Jesus, the one called the Christ?"</li> <li>They all answered, "Kill him on a cross!"</li> <li><sup>23</sup> Pilate asked, "Why do you want me to kill him? What wrong has he done?"</li> <li>But they shouted louder, "Kill him on a cross!"</li> </ul>
2	Jesus takes his cross	Matthew 27:28-31	https://www.bibl egateway.com/pa ssage/?search=Ma tthew+27%3A28- 31&version=ICB	<sup>28</sup> They took off his clothes and put a red robe on him. <sup>29</sup> Then the soldiers used thorny branches to make a crown. They put this crown of thorns on Jesus' head. They put a stick in his right hand. Then the soldiers bowed before Jesus and made fun of him. They said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup> They spit on Jesus. Then they took his stick and hit him on the head many times. <sup>31</sup> After they finished making fun of Jesus, the soldiers took off the robe and put his own clothes on him again. Then they led Jesus away to be killed on a cross.
3	Jesus falls for the first time	Isaiah 53:5	https://www.bibl egateway.com/pa ssage/?search=Isa iah+53%3A5&ver sion=ICB	But he was wounded for the wrong things we did. He was crushed for the evil things we did. The punishment, which made us well, was given to him. And we are healed because of his wounds.
4	Jesus meets his Mother	Luke 2:34-35	https://www.bibl egateway.com/pa ssage/?search=Lu	<sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, "Many in Israel will fall and many will rise because of this child. He will be a sign from God that many people will not accept. <sup>35</sup> The things they think in

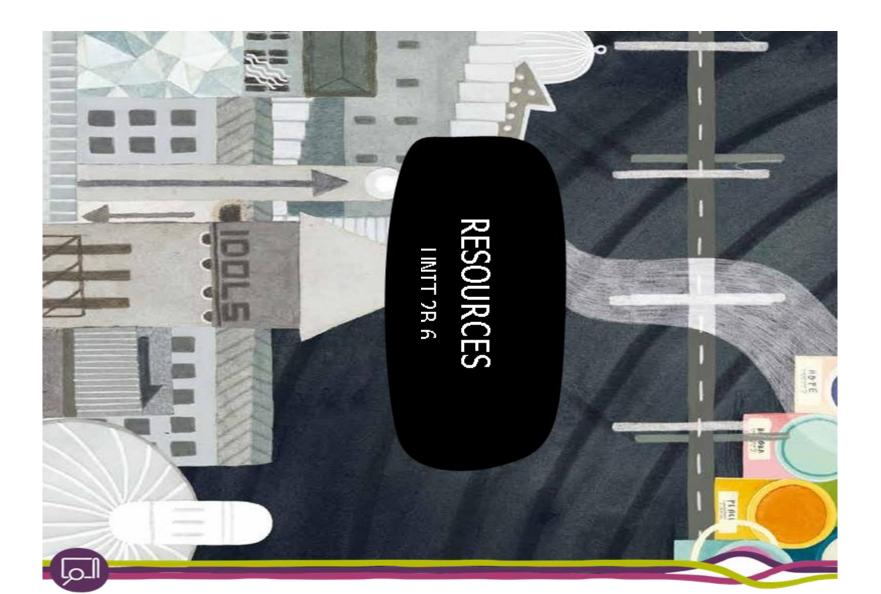
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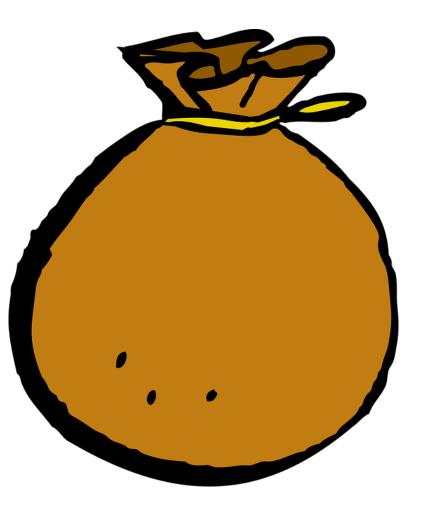


#### U.C upper KS2 – 2b.6 Salvation Unit



#### Breakout groups - Prop bags

#### What 5 objects would you put in to encourage thinking about your station?



Film clips -

Pilate asked, "What should I do with Jesus, the one called the Christ?"

They all answered, "Kill him on a cross!"

Pilate asked, "Why do you want me to kill him? What wrong has he done?"

But they shouted louder, "Kill him on a cross!"









#### Jesus Christ Superstar – trial before Pilate

Watch YouTube <a href="https://youtu.be/WEzEROSj110">https://youtu.be/WEzEROSj110</a>

Ways of using this:

- Hot seating
- Silent screening
- Senses response
- Emotions inside outside
- Character reflections
- Conscience alley
- How accurate is it? Compare to the text. What has been added for dramatic effect?
- Compare two versions....what impact does each have? Which is more true to the gospel?
- What does the scene say to you about personal qualities of Jesus and Pilate? Similarities and differences?

Breakout groups : 5 minutes - Consider in groups other great ideas for using a film clip such as this. Feedback to whole group to create new top 10 tips for using a video clip.

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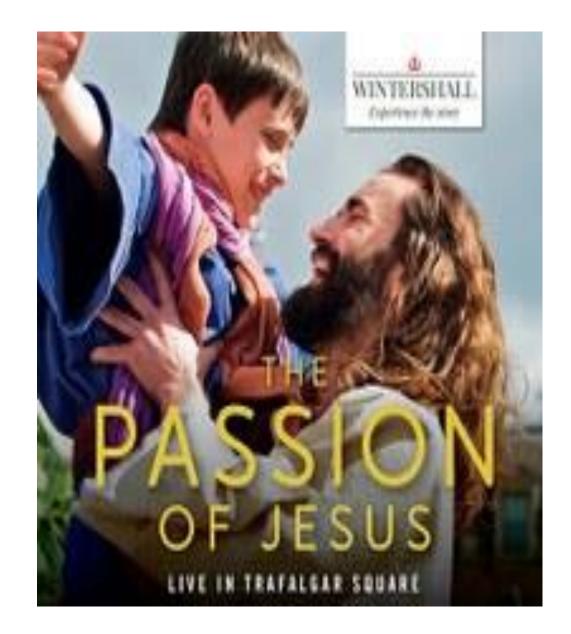




- Wintershall 2020 Passion
- Youtube –

https://youtu.be/SVIzq2Lh8ws#

Actor reflections



### Use of Artistic imagery

Artistic representations of the stations of the cross.

Godspacelight.com stations of the cross

- 1. Stained glass images resource 2
- 2. The Way of the Cross Anne Brink resource 3
- 3. Stations of the Cross Wintershall education resource 4

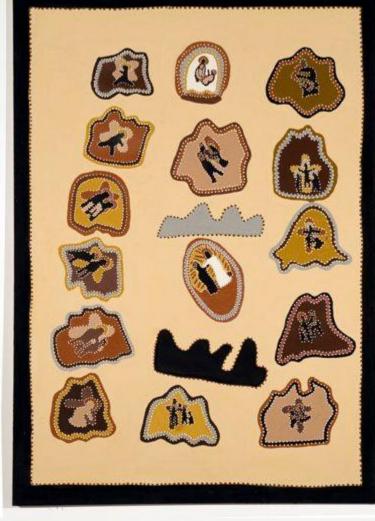
Example of use – storyboard and 2 word summary

In breakout groups:

Why do you think I have chosen them as potential artistic representations

Which image would you use and why for your station prop bag?

As a group think of two ways you could use them to unpack the text that deepens learning?



### Character reflections (Resource 5)

- Pílate says...
- "I am frightened. Never have I felt like this before. The shouting of the crowd is deafening, and I can hardly hear myself think. He is standing before me, bloody, battered and ridiculous in that mocking crown, hardly human at all. He has no power; he is so weak he can hardly stand; his friends have all vanished. He is all alone. He is my prisoner, entirely at my mercy: so why does it feel when I look into his eyes that he is the judge and I am the accused? I am in control, his life is in my hands, my soldiers wait for my command: so why is it that he is so calm, so self-assured and I am in turmoil? I would give anything to let him go. I am the Governor here, a courageous Roman should be able to tough it out to tell them who is boss, to say he must be released and we'll have none of their foolish squabbles. A courageous Roman should; a courageous Roman would. My rich clothes and rich living have always made me feel so powerful before, but now I feel naked, weak and frightened. A brave man would protect him from this crowd, only a coward would hand him over."



#### Simon of Cyrene says...



"This was no part of my plan, this carrying a cross. An African in Jerusalem, the last thing I wanted was to stand out from the crowd. I was in the wrong place at the wrong time, coming in through the gate as he was coming out, and before I knew what was happening I was his reluctant helper. He was tired, and I could see that he could not manage on his own. He could hardly breathe, and he said not a word to me. I felt so conspicuous, so full of resentment, so sorry for myself. But as we walked, I found that every time I took a little more of the weight of the cross, he was able to stand a little taller. There was nothing I could do to save him from what was coming, but I found that each struggle of mine to take the weight made his burden less, and made him less bowed, less degraded, less inhuman. This began to fascinate me because never before had I realised that simple acts and gestures could restore a man's dignity. I felt like a child again, full of wonder and excitement as I began to discover something new. In the end, I was sorry to let the cross go, because this tool of torture had opened my eyes, had opened my heart."

#### Character reflections

 In breakout groups 5 minutes .... Read the character reflection relating to your station. How could you use this great resource to get children to explore and unpick your particular part of the journey of the cross?

#### Songs and music(Resource 6)

• Don Francisco – He's alive

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NyPBVwOCYmM

Lyrics of He's alive - RESOURCE 6

Other great music to use

SERVANT KING

Living he loved me – Glorious Day

I will Rise- Chris Tomlin

Amazing Grace

St Matthews Passion - Bach

"On Easter Day the lilies bloom, Triumphant, risen from their tomb; Their bulbs have undergone rebirth, Born from the silence of the earth Symbolically, to tell all men That Christ, the Saviour, lives again. The angels, pure and white as they, Have come and rolled the stone away And with the lifting of the stone, The shadow of the cross is gone!"

–June Masters Bacher

**RESOURCE 7** 

