

The work of Christian Peacemaking

Lesson 2: Blessed Franz Jägerstätter



Lesson Objectives

- What:** To learn about the life and witness of Franz Jägerstätter as a peacemaker.
- To consider whether there is a difference between neutrality and active nonviolence.
- How:** To develop skills of judgement using the life of and decisions made by Blessed Franz Jägerstätter.

You will need

- Slideshow: Blessed Franz Jägerstätter
- Lesson 2: Teacher's pack
- Article: Holy Disobedience

Starter

Think - Puzzle - Explore

Students are to read the quotation [Slide 2] and complete the **Think - Puzzle - Explore** sheet from the Teacher's pack.

They may then share some of their ideas.

Main Activities

The Life of Franz Jägerstätter

Fight or not fight: what would you do?

[You will need the **Fight or not fight** script from the Teacher's pack]

Students are told the story of Franz Jägerstätter and are invited to consider what they would do in his place - fight in the army or refuse to fight.

If they would fight then they are to stand to one side of the room. If they would not fight then they are to stand on the other side.

The story is told in slow motion, giving a little information at a time. The students are given the opportunity to change their mind after each point. [Use Lesson 2 Teacher's pack and Slides 3 - 15]

The students are encouraged to share the reason for their decision at various points.

This was the decision that Franz Jägerstätter faced. He refused to fight and in 1943 was executed for refusing to obey military orders. [Slide 16]

The students are to read the life of Franz Jägerstätter in the article **Holy Disobedience**. [Side 17]

Plenary

What can we learn from Franz Jägerstätter?

Students will:

Summarise their opinion as to whether they think Franz Jägerstätter should have fought. Explain what can be learned from his story about the duties of a Christian peacemaker? [Slide 18]

