

A Christian Response to Conflict

A GCSE Religious Studies Resource for:
OCR: Page 49
AQA: Specification A 3.2.1.4
AQA: Specification B 3.2.2.2 Dialogue 2
Edexcel: Specification B 4.3

Lesson Objectives

- What:** To examine Jesus' teachings on peace.
 To examine how these teachings are put into practice today
- How:** To consider Bible texts in their original context

You will need

- Slideshow: A Christian Response to Conflict
- Animal Conflict Sheets – these are to be displayed around the room
- Teacher's pack

Starter

How do you deal with conflict?

The **Animal Conflict Sheets** are displayed around the room. Each represents a way of responding to conflict. Students are to position themselves beside the one they think most closely matches them. [Slide 2]

In pairs/small groups they consider: [Slide 3]

Why have you chosen your animal?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of this style of response?

Is this method likely to solve the problem?



Alternatively students can use post-it notes to indicate their choice of animal before a class discussion of these questions

Main Activities

Investigating the Scriptures

[You will need the teacher's pack for these activities]

Turn the other cheek (Matthew 5:38-41): Students should read this text and consider what is Jesus' message here? [Slide 4 and 5]

We are going to look at Walter Wink's interpretation of this passage. [Slide 6]

With 2 volunteers talk through the role play. [Slide 7]

Love your Enemies (Matthew 5:43-45): Students are given chance to read the passage. [Slide 8]
 What does it mean to love your enemies? [Slide 9]

Distribute copies of **love your enemies stories** around the class. Students are given three minutes with each of the stories. What do they teach us about loving our enemies? They are to add their own thoughts and reflections. [Slide 10]
 After three minutes swap with someone who has a different story. They may share their reflections at the end.



Plenary

What is Jesus teaching in these two passages?

Look back at your thoughts on these passages at the start of the lesson. Has your opinion changed? Why/Why not?

What do these stories tell us about how Christians should respond to conflict? [Slide 11]