

## The Faithzone : TEACHER NOTES

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#### THE VIDEOS

These videos were originally designed as a lynch-pin of the Faith Zone at the Millennium Dome. They were not made with school learners or teachers in mind, but it is not often that schools have access to short films made by the BBC which give leads into several curriculum areas via the history of Christianity in Britain.

Copies of the videos and the accompanying booklet have been sent to all secondary schools in England and Wales. The full resource comprises:

- Video containing 9 x 4 minute (approx) films
- An accompanying booklet
- This website giving
  - Summaries and transcript of the programmes
  - Ideas for discussion and activities, including weblinks
  - Collective worships for each programme.

The National Society have also produced a site expressly for church use. You can access it at <http://www.natsoc.org.uk>

Major areas of curriculum development which could be supported include RE, PSHE and History, and in Citizenship; it is particularly suitable for tutorial and general discussion work. Under Section 351 of the 1996 Education Act, schools are required, 'at all key stages to provide a curriculum which is *balanced* and *broadly based* and which

- a) promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society; and
- b) prepares pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.'

However they are presented, the activities and information provided in this resource contribute directly to all these requirements.

For feedback or further information please contact us: [enquiries@thefaithzone.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thefaithzone.org.uk)

#### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Viewing videos is a passive experience. These collective worships, written by a writer who has written for many famous soap operas, are designed to stimulate (and sometimes perhaps shock) students into active reflection and involvement. The keys lie in the title, ('*YOUR* Education; *YOUR* Justice; etc) and the phrase at the end of each one: '*Think about it*'.
- The videos are explicitly Christian. The Collective Worships have been designed for use in multi-faith, multi-cultural settings.
- There are a number of ways you can use this material: here, the video segments are used as the basis for collective worship. They are designed for use with Key Stages 3 & 4 but you have the option of adapting them to younger children.

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- These collective worships tend to be more effectively thought-provoking when students are actively involved by 'performing' them. They are designed to be spoken by four students but you could alter them to suit more or fewer students. You might want to play some music while the speakers ask questions of the gathered students – something which aids them in making quiet reflections on the points raised.
- The content could also be used in classroom situations, perhaps in conjunction with other activities and discussions suggested on this site.

Full transcripts of the texts of each video segment are from the web site at <http://www.thefaithzone.org.uk/>