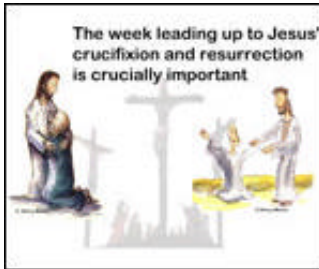


Collective Worship Resource – Easter



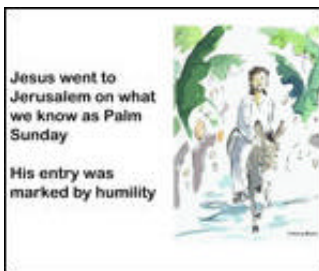
Title slide



Screen 1

The week leading up to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are crucially important.

So important that about 1/3 of the gospel story focuses on these days.



Screen 2

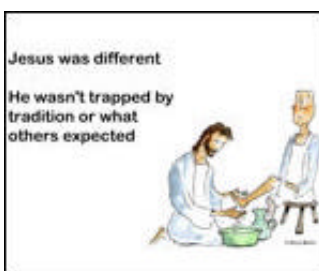
When Jesus went to Jerusalem ...on what we know as Palm Sunday he wasn't starting a military uprising as many hoped;

His entry was marked by humility:

He came on a donkey not on a horse with all the military dressing a war leader might use to impress;

And the people welcomed him with palm leaves and not a red carpet

His entry was subtle - and therefore challenging and threatening to the leaders of the country because it wasn't easily understood.



Screen 3

Jesus was different...

- He wasn't trapped by tradition or what others expected his teaching was about our having a change of heart in the way we live
- and a change in the way we view the great issues of life.



Screen 4

In the Temple Jesus challenged established religion;

- He upset the money changers tables
- people were being cheated because they had to use special tokens to buy offerings.



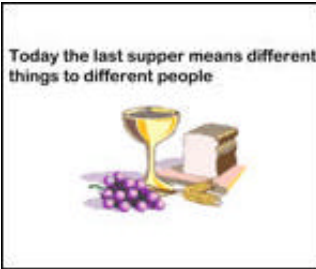
Screen 5

At the 'Last Supper' ...

Jesus took bread - the basic, simple food - and shared it, using it as an illustration, of him giving himself; he said 'This is my body broken for you'

Then he took some wine and shared that to illustrate the sacrifice he was making;

He said 'This is my blood shed for you'.

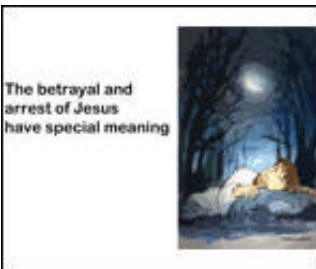


Screen 6

Today the Last Supper means different things to people.

In their worship, for some people, this takes the form of a great re-enactment of Jesus' sacrifice.

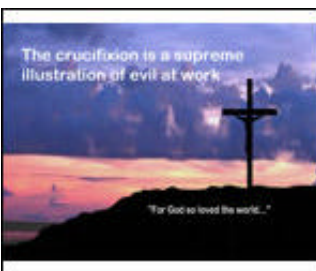
Whilst for others the recalling of this act speaks of what faith is about.



Screen 7

The betrayal and arrest of Jesus have special meaning –

- They illustrate actions and their results which are:
- Deliberate - as with Judas
- Passive - as when the disciples kept falling asleep and when Peter denied knowing Jesus.

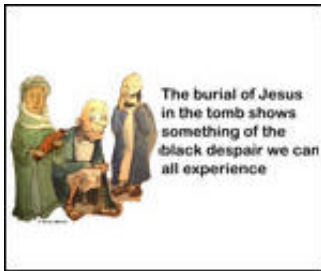


Screen 8

The crucifixion is a supreme illustration of evil at work -

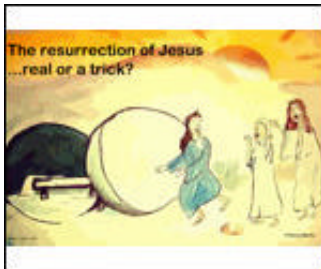
not only in the cruelty and injustice;

but also in the way bad decisions can be made quickly, the results having long lasting effects and causing great suffering.



Screen 9

The burial of Jesus in the tomb shows something of the black despair we can all experience. People know something of this when they feel abandoned, confused and alone.



Screen 10

The resurrection of Jesus ...real or a trick?

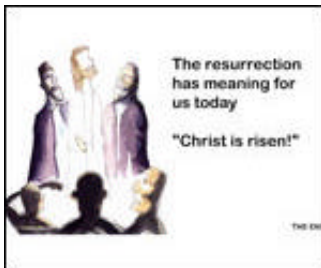
Jesus' resurrection is too easily sidetracked into an argument about did it happen or not?

We are told of many reported appearances of Jesus after the tomb where he was buried was found empty...

when he seemed human...yet not...

when he appeared and then disappeared...

when he was recognised and when he was not recognised.



Screen 11

The meaning of the resurrection for us today is about:

- Seeing life differently;
- Living in a new way
- Putting God and other people first;
- Understanding what happened was God showing his total love for everyone and everything in the world
- Reacting and living so that life has a new meaning ...and this is summed up in the Easter greeting:

Christ is risen!

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