



How has the Christian message survived 2000 years?

Core Concept:
Kingdom of God

KEY VOCABULARY:

Apostle: Means 'one who is sent'. Usually refers to the first 12 disciples and St Paul.

Creed: A statement of belief. Comes from the Latin word 'credo', meaning 'I believe'.

Evangelism: Telling others the Good News of the Christian message.

Missionary: Someone who travels away from their home country or culture to tell or show others the love of God.

Persecution: Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs.

The Great Commission:

Jesus' final words to his disciples in Matthew 28:18-10. He tells them to go out into the world and make disciples of others, baptising them and teaching them. He promises to be with them always.

The Book of Acts: The Book of Acts records the start of the Church. It was written by Luke, the same Luke that wrote the Gospel. He was writing to Theophilus, who was probably a high-ranking Roman official. Following his resurrection on Easter Sunday, Jesus made numerous appearances to his followers. In Acts 1:1-8 Jesus tells his followers to stay in Jerusalem to await the gift of the Holy Spirit. When this happened, they would receive God's power to share the Christian message.

Pentecost: Pentecost was a Jewish festival. It was also the day the followers of Jesus were baptised in the Holy Spirit. The disciples were in Jerusalem praying when suddenly there was a violent rushing wind. What appeared to be tongues of fire rested on each believer and they were suddenly able to speak other languages that they had not previously learnt.



The original writers of the Old Testament wrote in Hebrew and the New Testament writers wrote in Greek. Christians believe it is important for people to have access to the Bible as they believe that God speaks to people through his word. Organisations such as **The Bible Society** and **Wycliffe Bible Translators** are committed to making the Bible available for people to read in their own language.



KEY QUESTIONS:

- How did the Christian message first spread? (Pentecost)
- How did the Early Church protect the Christian message through the Apostle's Creed?
- Why is Bible translation important in helping the Christian message survive?
- How has the Christian message survived persecution?
- How does the church spread its message worldwide?
- How does the local church spread the Christian message today in the UK?

The Apostles Creed: The Early Church needed a clear statement of beliefs. The creed provided information to be taught to new Christians and was to be learnt by heart. In 2000 years, there have only been two important creeds which the Church has used widely in its worship; **The Nicene Creed** and **The Apostles Creed**.