

Aspirational Vocabulary

Term	Definition
Gospel	Means 'Good News' – the message about the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
Radical	Describes actions or beliefs that are very different from what is traditional or accepted.
Forgiveness	Letting go of anger or resentment towards someone who has done wrong.
Compassion	A deep awareness of the suffering of others and a desire to help.
Hypocrisy	Saying one thing but doing another; pretending to have moral standards that are not followed.
Justice	Fair treatment and behaviour; doing what is right.
Temple	The central place of worship for Jews in Jerusalem during Jesus' time.
Repentance	Feeling sorry for wrongdoing and deciding to change behaviour.
Intention	A purpose or reason behind an action.
Mercy	Kindness and forgiveness shown to someone, even if they deserve punishment.

What is so radical about Jesus?

- Jesus taught love for enemies, forgiveness, and care for the outcast, which challenged social norms.
- He welcomed sinners, tax collectors, and those rejected by society.
- Jesus placed love, compassion, and justice at the centre of his message.

- For example, hating someone is seen as serious as harming them physically.
- True goodness comes from pure intentions, not just following rules.

Big Questions

- 1) What made Jesus' teachings radical for his time?
- 2) How does the story of the adulterous woman show Jesus' message of mercy?
- 3) Why did Jesus get angry in the temple, and what does it teach about justice?
- 4) Why do intentions matter as much as actions in Christianity?

The adulterous woman

- Religious leaders brought a woman caught in adultery to Jesus, hoping to trap him.
- Jesus said, 'Let the one without sin cast the first stone.'
- The crowd left, and Jesus forgave the woman, showing mercy over punishment.
- This story highlights the importance of forgiveness and avoiding hypocrisy.

Jesus cleanses the temple

- Jesus found money changers in the temple and drove them out, accusing them of turning it into a 'den of thieves'.
- This act showed Jesus' anger at injustice and disrespect for holy spaces.
- It was a bold challenge to the religious authorities and their misuse of power.

Actions vs intentions

- Jesus taught that what is in a person's heart matters as much as their actions.

