Understanding & Teaching the Holocaust by utilising the resources from Yad Vashem

ACLE 3
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Yad Vashem

- The Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority

- Located in Jerusalem, Israel
Why teach the Holocaust?

- Moral Issues
- The basis and ramifications of many ills of society
- The danger of apathy
- Democracy is fragile
- Silence can be deathly
- Abuse of power, incorrect decisions and convergence of ideas.
What to teach about the Holocaust
1933 - 1939

- Dictatorship under the Third Reich
- Early Stages of Persecution
- The First Concentration Camps
1939 - 1945

- World War II in Europe
- Murder of the Disabled
- Persecution and Murder of Jews
- Ghettos
- Mobile Killing Squads
- Expansion of the Concentration Camps
- Killing Centres
- Additional Victims of Nazi Persecution
- Jewish and non-Jewish Resistance
- Rescue
- Death Marches
- Liberation
Post 1945

- Post-war Trials
- Displaced Persons Camps
- Immigration
- Holocaust Denial
Other topics...

- Anti-Semitism
- Jewish life in Europe before 1933
- World War I
- The aftermath of WWI
- Nazi rise to power
Teaching the Holocaust

- Links to History, English, Christian Studies, Politics, Geography and many other curriculum areas.
- Utilise resources. The Holocaust has one of the largest collection of primary sources of any history discipline that we teach.
- Stories, letters, photos, film, poetry, song, drawings, survivor testimony and exhibitions.
Examples

- Poetry
- Photos
In any context, one person can simplify an understanding for any person.

For example:

- one victim
- one perpetrator
- one bystander
- one rescuer
A LOOK AT THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF ANTISEMITISM & CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS
Jesus said,

No one takes my life from me,
I lay it down of myself.

*John 10:18*
Throughout Europe Jews were persecuted and exiled by people who said they were Christians. Small wonder that Jews looked on Christians with suspicion.
The Reformers were heroes in many ways but were a mixture of wisdom & folly. Most still held Jews in contempt.
Luther ~ later in life...

- Synagogues should be burned, homes destroyed
- Should be deprived of prayerbooks and Talmuds,
- Rabbis forbidden to teach
- Forbid passports and traveling privileges.
- Stopped from money-lending & usury. Forced to do manual labor.
- “Act so we may be free of this insufferable, devilish burden – the Jews”
Jew as a Vulture
Jew as a Snake
Resources from Yad Vashem

- Library catalogue
- Shoah database of victims
- Lesson Plans
- Memorial ideas/programs
- Publications
- Chronologies
- Timelines
- Bibliographies
- Online Exhibitions
- Lexicon Entries and much more!
Video Testimonies

Online Ceremonies

The Holocaust and the Christian World

Pages of Testimony Activities
Courage to Care

Welcome to Courage to care

- REALLY Caring for your fellow human beings sometimes takes courage.
- Communal tolerance and living in harmony comes from better understanding other cultures and backgrounds.
- Standing up against racism and persecution, takes courage but improves world harmony and peace.
- Just one individual can make a difference—Action against apathy—A sense of empathy

Still skeptical about how to make a difference?
Browse stories of courage on this site.

In Germany they first came for the Jews.
The main forms of help are:
- Hiding Jews in home or on property
- Providing false papers and identities
- Smuggling and assisting Jews to escape
- The rescue of children
Other places to visit...

- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
- USC College Visual Testimonies Holocaust Maps
- Schindler’s List
- Terezin Memorial
- Berlin Memorial
- Holocaust Memorial Centre
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