

CHRISTIANITY: TRIED AND TRUE

An interactive way of sharing the gospel

Presented by Annette Ware – Abbotsleigh, Sydney
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SYNOPSIS OF PRESENTATION

'Christianity: Tried and True' is a road-tested way of presenting basic Christian beliefs in a manner that is clear, challenging, visual, interactive, engaging and fun. In the last ten years it has been used in the classroom, in chapel and assembly talks, in baptism and confirmation classes, in small groups, in counselling situations, and with individual students and staff. It draws upon what our students already know and it makes full use of their ideas and contributions. It caters for different learning styles. It is decidedly student-centred, but is very much teacher-directed. It is capable of being used by Christians of all traditions. It can be used as a one-off lesson or it can provide the framework for a unit of course work. It has proven itself to be very effective in helping students at different stages of their faith journey to understand the nature, the attraction, and the shape of Christian commitment. Whilst 'Christianity: Tried and True' readily lends itself to a PowerPoint presentation, freehand sketches can also be used most effectively. For Christian Studies teachers it has been an invaluable means of commending the Christian faith.

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

1. INTRODUCTION

This understanding of Christianity has been *tried* – it has been 'road tested' and has been found to be a satisfying way to live.

- Furthermore, I believe it is *true* – true to the Bible and true to life experience.

2. WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?



- Note the smile on his/her face. Here is a satisfied customer! Being a Christian makes all of life different and all of life better.

3. GOD

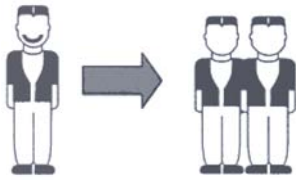


We'll use a crown to represent God.

A Christian is a person who believes that God is real.
How do Christians seek to treat God?

Complete this: A Christian is someone who seeks to God.

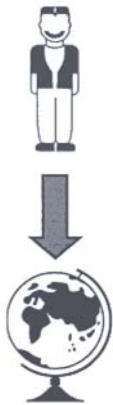
4. OTHERS



A Christian is a person who recognises that other people are special because they are made in God's image, and because Christ died for them.

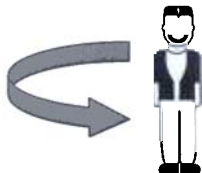
- How do Christians seek to treat other people?
- *Complete this:* A Christian is a person who seeks to other people.

5. WORLD



- A Christian is a person who recognises that this is God's world and that God has entrusted it to us. How do Christians seek to treat our world?
- *Complete this:* A Christian is a person who seeks to our world.

6. SELF



- A Christian is a person who values themselves as someone created in the image of God, and as someone for whom Christ died.
- How do Christians seek to treat themselves?
- *Complete this:* A Christian is a person who seeks to him/herself.

7. THE OVERALL SHAPE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

All four of these dimensions make up the Christian life. None are optional.

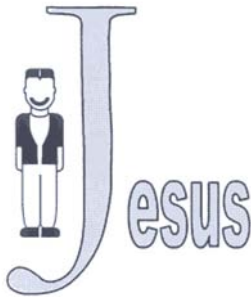
8. SIN



Christians know they don't live the way that God intended them to live – they 'sin'.

- Christians come up short in all four areas.
- These failures are serious and there are consequences for these failures.

9. JESUS



- This brings us to the centre or heart of the Christian life.
- Jesus lived the life we should have lived.
- Jesus died the death we deserve.
- Jesus rose again, victorious over death, a preview of what will happen to us if we trust Him and invite Him into our lives.
- A Christian is a person who has heard Jesus 'knock' on the door of their life (Revelation 3:20) and has invited Him in.

10. LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL

- Jesus came that we might have life in all its fullness (John 10:10)
- This is a picture of human flourishing: people delighting in God, reaching out to others, enjoying God's wonderful creation, and rejoicing as they regard themselves as forgiven, precious and valued . . . because of Jesus.

11. SOME SAY:

'NO'

- Why?
- The challenge for those in this position is to come up with a better alternative.

'NOT YET'

- Why?
- The challenge for those in this position is to keep thinking it through and checking it out.

'YES'

- Why?
- The challenge for those in this position is to enjoy it and live it out.
- And if you haven't said 'yes', why not now?

12. ABC

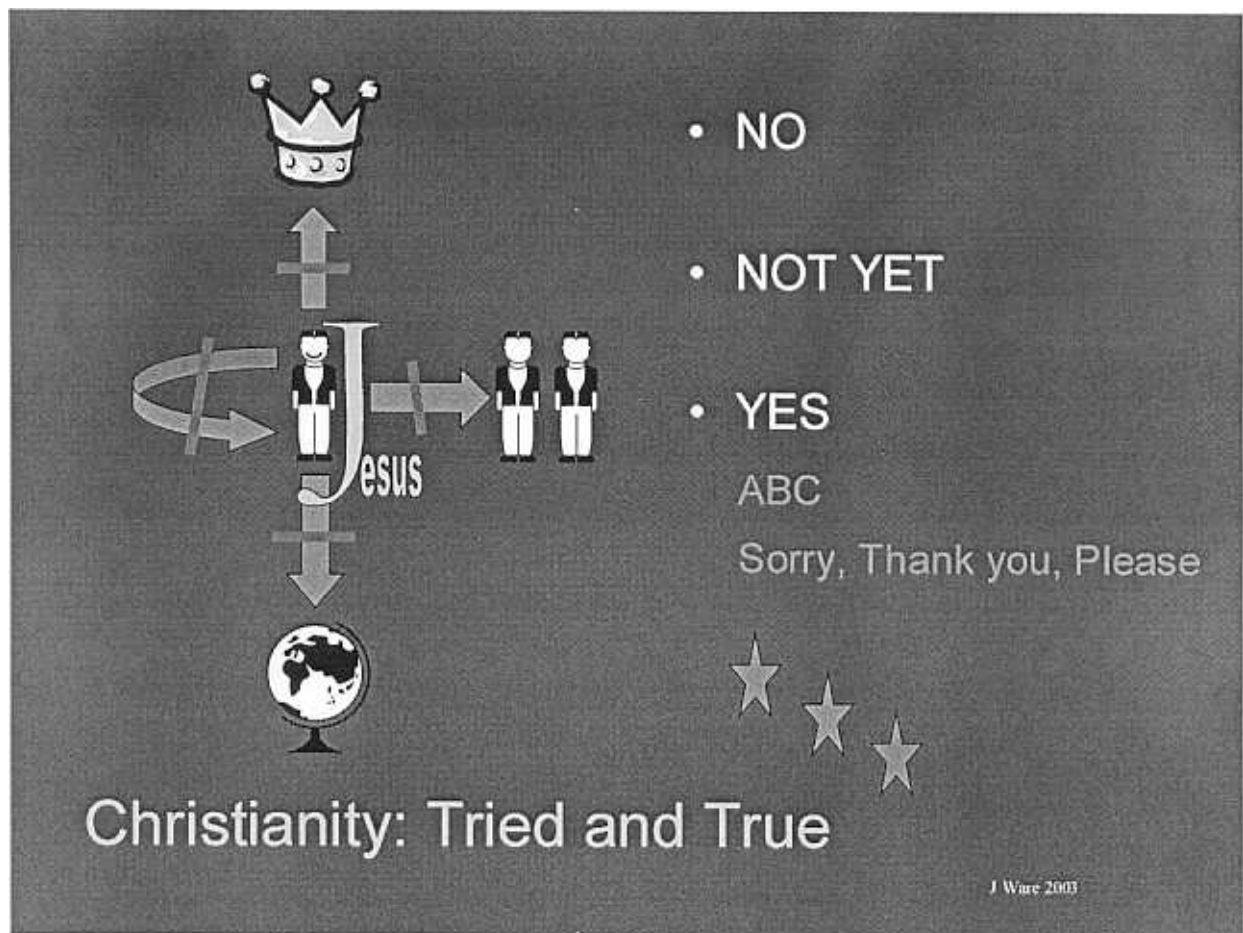
- Are you ready to say 'yes'? Here's a quick checklist: it's as easy as ABC!
- *Admit* – I admit that I haven't lived the way I should have been living.
- *Believe* – I believe that Jesus died for me and rose again.
Commit – I commit myself to living like this, with God's help, from this moment on.

13. SORRY, THANK YOU, PLEASE

- If you are ready, is it time to say a prayer to God?
- Sorry – I haven't done things right.
- Thank you – that Jesus came into the world to show us how to live, to die so we could be forgiven, and to rise again and give us hope.
- Please – forgive me, and help me to live like I should from this day on.

14. CONCLUSION

- Remember the smile. Being a Christian makes all of life different and all of life better.
- How is it better?



The completed diagram