



St Paul

Paul's name was originally Saul. Saul lived in Tarsus in Turkey. He grew up learning both the Jewish law and the Greek ways of discussing things. When people started becoming Christians, after the death of Jesus, Saul was strongly against it. He worked for the Roman Government and helped lead the arrests and killing of many Christians in Israel and the nearby area.

While he was on the road to Damascus in search of Christians there, he had a vision. In the vision Jesus Christ spoke to him, telling Saul that his persecution of Christians was a persecution of Jesus himself, and that it did not please God. Saul was blinded by the vision. A short time later he met Ananias, a disciple of Jesus, and his sight came back to him. Saul was baptised as a Christian.

He spent the next three years studying the Jewish scriptures again to find explanations for the Christian teachings. His experiences changed his viewpoint completely. He changed his name to Paul and he dedicated his life to serving Jesus Christ. He travelled around the Roman Empire, teaching others about Christianity, and wrote letters back and forth with the churches he helped to begin. The letters contain many important parts of Christian teaching.

Paul was put to death by orders of the emperor Nero in Rome, in 67 AD. He had the rights of a Roman citizen, which meant that he could be put to death by having his head cut off with a sword, rather than by crucifixion.

What to do:

Watch the video [St Paul Video](#)

Then write a list of questions that you would like to ask Paul about his life and things that happened to him. Remember to use question words at the start of your sentence and finish with a question mark.

Pick two of your questions and answer them as if you were St Paul. What do you think he would say?