
Westminster Abbey

Learning



Modern Martyrs: Lucian Tapiedi

Born: c. 1921/1922

Died: 1942

Occupation: Teacher

Biography

He was born in Papua, Oceania. After attending a Christian mission school as a child, he became a teacher and missionary himself.

During World War Two, Japanese forces invaded Papua New Guinea. Lucian Tapiedi was determined not to abandon the missionaries that he worked with so a group of them travelled together to flee the Japanese forces. They arrived at a village of Orokaiva people and one of them killed Lucian Tapiedi.

Lucian Tapiedi was one of 333 Christians who lost their lives in New Guinea during the invasion and occupation of the island by Japanese forces. Lucian Tapiedi's killer later converted to Christianity and build a church dedicated to his memory.

Activities

"I will stay with the Fathers and the Sisters."

Discuss this quotation with a partner. How do you think Lucian Tapiedi felt when he said these words. How does that make you feel?

"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others."

(Philippians 2:4)

Discuss this Bible passage with a partner. How is this passage similar to Lucian Tapiedi's quotation?

Write a paragraph about what people can learn from the behaviour and teachings of Lucian Tapiedi.



For teachers:

We recommend you read our "[Introducing Modern Martyrs: primary teachers' guide](#)" before using this activity sheet.

Thank you for downloading this resource. We hope that it will be a useful teaching tool in your classroom.

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