STAND UP and TAKE ACTION is the largest solidarity movement against poverty the world has ever seen. It is a unique opportunity for individuals, community groups and schools to join together to STAND UP against poverty. In 2008, over 116 Million people participated in STAND UP and TAKE ACTION events, setting a new Guinness World Record. This October, join millions worldwide to STAND UP and TAKE ACTION against poverty and for the Millennium Development Goals. For more information visit the Stand Up Website. A STAND UP Toolkit and PowerPoint for Schools can be downloaded from the new BCE RE Portal.

Book Review: The Misunderstood Jew by Amy-Jill Levine

Amy Jill Levine is the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Nashville, Tennessee. Raised and still a practising Orthodox Jew, she became interested in Christianity and especially Catholicism as a child, as she was raised in a Catholic neighbourhood in Massachusetts, and all her friends were Catholic. When another student on her school bus called her a ‘Jesus killer’, Levine as a young girl decided to discover the ways that Christianity had distorted Jesus and perpetuated anti Jewish and anti-Semitic teachings.

With each chapter of the book, Professor Levine looks at Jesus and Judaism, the development of Jewish sect to Gentile Church, the New Testament and anti-Judaism, stereotyping Judaism and more. She delves into the historical context of the good Samaritan, the Samaritan woman at the well, the man with the withered hand, other parables, the Our Father and many more stories that we teach within our classrooms. The book may serve as an invaluable corrective for some religious educators.

To read the full book review written by Erin Wedge, Education Officer –Religious Education, visit the RE Leaders Collaborative Site located in new RE Portal.