

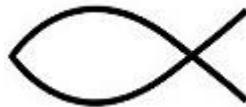
Christian secret symbol of the fish

During their persecution by the Roman Empire in the first few centuries after Christ, Christians had to hide from those who would kill them or put them in prison, so they contacted each other with this secret symbol. The Greek letters of the word 'fish' (ichthus) reminded them of what they believed about Jesus, so it was a good symbol to use!



heritage learning welcome

ιχθυσ = fish in Greek (ichthus)



Ichthus can be read as an acrostic, a word formed from the first letters of several other words:

Greek Letter	English Letter	The letter stands for this word
ι	= J	Jesus
χ	= Ch	Christ
θ	= Th	Theou (God's)
υ	= U	uios (Son)
σ	= S	Soter (Saviour)
Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour		

Greek small letters: αβγδεϛγηϙκλμνοπθρστυϘωξψζ

Greek capital letters: ΑΒΧΔΕΦΓΗΘΚΛΜΝΟΠΘΡΣΤΥΖΩΞΨΖ