

GCSE Edexcel B Topic on a Page for Christianity

Beliefs and Living the Religious Life

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Teacher's Introduction

This resource has been designed to support the learning and teaching of the Religious Studies GCSE Edexcel B specification. It includes material on Christian Beliefs and Living the Christian Life – half the content for Paper 1, Paper 2 or Paper 3 when studied from a Christian perspective. (Note: you cannot sit more than one paper on the same religion.) Theme content is split into five sections as follows:


Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

1. **A4 teacher information pages.**
2. **Five A3 revision posters**, between them covering the 16 subtopics (pages 1–4) and perspectives of additional religions for the required areas* (page 5).

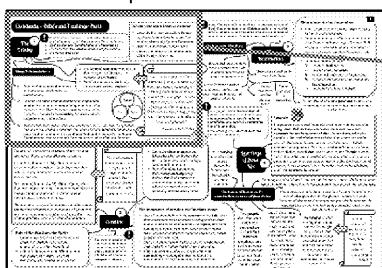
These are labelled: **1** to **5**

*Remember! Students need to know about beliefs about the afterlife and their significance, and the practice and significance of worship with reference to another religion. Material is given for the former from the perspectives of Judaism, Islam and Buddhism, and for the latter from the perspectives of Judaism and Islam. These posters are intended as a summary of all of the material, focusing on the main points rather than the detail, so that all important areas are covered without going into too much depth.

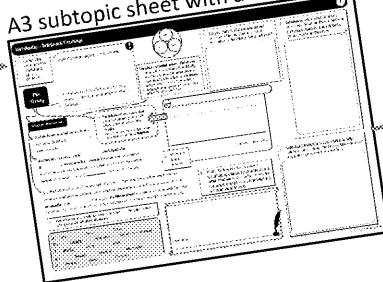
3. **Twenty-one A3 subtopic sheets with activities.** Each of these sheets covers one subtopic and provides write-on activities for students to complete. Answers are provided in the A4 subtopic revision posters and the A4 extension question answer pages. These are labelled with numbers inside white circles:  21
4. **Twenty-one A4 subtopic revision posters.** These provide answers for the main activities given in the A3 subtopic activity sheets. As revision posters, these can be used as a summary for each area, and have enough space for teacher or student annotation. These are labelled with numbers inside black circles: 21
5. **A4 answers to extension questions.** These pages provide answers to the extension questions not covered on the A4 subtopic revision posters.

All posters can be displayed on classroom walls, or given to students to learn in lessons or at home.

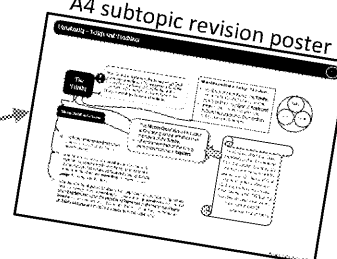
A3 revision poster



A3 subtopic sheet with activities



A4 subtopic revision poster



As a whole, the resource can be used to help students to revise at the end of a topic/subtopic, or before a test or an exam. Different styles and layouts are used to make the information interesting and to help the students engage with the information in a productive way.

H Rich, January 2018

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Register your email address to receive any future free updates* made to this resource or other Religious Studies resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

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Christian Beliefs: Part 1

The Trinity

1

Most Christians believe in the **Trinity** – that God is one being made up of three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. It is important to Christians that they believe in one God, as **worship** of others is forbidden.

Worship and belief today – Christians:

- celebrate the members of the **Trinity**, e.g. Jesus' birth at Christmas and the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**
- **pray** in Jesus' name / pray to Jesus
- believe they experience the members of the Trinity in their lives



Many Christians believe in one God; God in the human and fully divine form as Christ (Greek).

Significance for Christians today:

Shows that God has a relationship with humans, and it is easier to relate to a human than to an abstract concept.

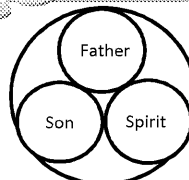
Many Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled the Jewish **law**, so they need to follow his teachings.



The gospels record Jesus' life, including his betrayal, his crucifixion and his ascension. The suffering and death of Jesus is known as the **Passion**.

Many Christians believe:

- 1) God the Father **created** the world and sent Jesus, God the Son, to **save** humanity.
- 2) God the Son was present at **creation** and helped with creation. He became **incarnate** as Jesus, born of a human mother, Mary. Jesus **saved** humanity, before rising from the dead and **ascending** to heaven. He will **judge** the living and the dead.
- 3) God the Holy Spirit guides Christians and helps them in their lives, living in their hearts. He was present at **creation**, has spoken through **prophets**, descended at Jesus' **baptism**, and upon the **apostles** at **Pentecost**. A change to the **Nicene Creed** indicates that he proceeds from the Father and the Son, but Orthodox Christians disagree and think he proceeds from the Father only.



'And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved with whom I am well pleased."

(Matthew 3:16–17 NRSV)

Interpretations:

- Some Christians **interpret** the Bible **literally**; they believe that the world was created in six days (and then God rested).
- Some Christians interpret the Bible **metaphorically**. They believe that God created the world and humans, but that the biblical account of creation is **symbolic**, not **literal**, true.

Jesus **praying** to God before he died showed his human side – he did suffer like other humans.

Significance for understanding:

Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the universe and of life. There are two different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in six days, and then rests for a day. Plants and animals are created before humans.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly; after God has created the earth, he creates man. He then creates plants and animals, and then creates woman, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.'

(Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

Creation

Role of the Word and the Spirit

- Genesis says that the **spirit** of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at creation and that everything was created through him.

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians **interpret** it differently.

The importance of creation for Christians today:

- Some Christians believe in the **doctrine** of the **Fall** – that through the first man and woman eating the forbidden fruit, all humans have fallen from God's **grace**, and need **saving**, so they are grateful for Jesus coming to save them, and allowing them to be reconciled to God / have a relationship with God.
- Many Christians believe that God gave them **dominion** over the earth – that he has let them rule over it.
- They also believe that God charged them with **stewardship** – looking after the world and the environment, so they believe they should do this.

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Christian Beliefs: Part 2

Salvation within Christianity refers to the belief that Jesus **saved** Christians from **sin** and death. **Law**, **sin**, **grace**, the Spirit, and **atonement** are all related concepts.

Salvation

Grace and the Spirit:

Many Christians believe that **grace** is a gift from God, which can **save** them. Jesus coming to save humanity was an expression of God's grace. Many Christians also believe that they receive God's grace through the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and **sacraments**.

Natural suffering by a person

Evil is more

moral suffering by a person

Salvation: Christians believe that Jesus **saved** them from **sin** and death through his death and **resurrection**. This is known as **salvation**. It is *what* Jesus achieved for them.

Atonement: Christians believe that Jesus **saved** them by dying on the cross and somehow **atoning** for, or making up for, the **sin**. It is *how* Jesus achieved **salvation** for them.

Different theories of atonement:

Some Christians believe certain people are **predestined** to be **saved**.

Some Christians think that people are **saved** if they use their **free will** to accept Jesus' sacrifice.

Jesus' death was a sacrifice which redeemed humans by paying the price required by **sin** – death.

Jesus' death overcame the forces of evil.

Atonement is a **divine mystery**.

Law:

Jewish teaching, **Law** on how to follow Jewish **law**.

Christians instead believe that salvation has come through Jesus' sacrifice – and that this fulfilled the Jewish law – though they may follow some of the Jewish law as well as following Jesus' teachings and example.

Significance of salvation and atonement:

- Christians believe that:
 - Jesus' death and **resurrection** show God loves them
 - they have been **saved** from **sin** and death, had their debt paid, and been given **grace**
 - they do not need to follow the Jewish **law**

'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.'

(Psalm 103:8 NRSV)

In the **parable** of the sheep and the goats, Jesus teaches that he will **judge** people at the end of time depending on their actions – the good will go to **heaven** and the bad to **hell**.

In the **parable** of the bridesmaids, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **Kingdom of God** / the end of the world and **judgement** to come at any time.

Some Christians believe in **resurrection of the body**: the dead will be raised in their bodies at the end of time. Jesus taught that the dead would be raised from their graves (John 11:25).

Some Christians believe in **immortality of the soul**: souls will go to **heaven/purgatory/hell** immediately after death. Jesus told the thief on the cross that he would be in paradise that day (Luke 23:43).

Some Christians believe in both **resurrection of the body** and **immortality of the soul**: people will live on immediately after death, but will be reunited with their bodies and **judged** at the end of time.

Many Christians believe that good people will go to **heaven**, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:2–4). Some Christians believe only Christians will go to heaven, because Jesus said that he was the 'way' to '[God the] Father' (John 14:6).

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to **purgatory**, a realm where they 'stop' to 'purge' for their sins before entering heaven. The 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England claims that purgatory is not in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in **hell**, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

Eschatology refers to the end of things – for example, the end of life (death) and the end of time. Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of time. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

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Living the Christian Life: Part 1

Worship covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**

- **Sermon/Talk** – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important in helping Christians understand their **faith** better and in encouraging them to live good lives and have a full relationship with God.
- **Bible reading** – used to teach God's will, in group or private **worship**. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through it and gives his **grace**.
- **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.
- **Prayer** – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

Liturgy:

This is a set **worship** service, involving set items, such as set words, set hymns and set **prayers**. This (and **liturgical worship**) may be used to help to make worship feel special, and also to allow a congregation to become familiar with the words and practices used.

May be used for special occasions, e.g. when **sacraments** are being practised, or at celebrations such as Christmas and Easter.

Also known as Communion, Supper, the Eucharist, bread and wine, it follows Jesus' **Last Supper** in this way and that his body (wine) were given for forgiveness of sins, an important part of Christians' lives for them.

In the Eucharist, bread and wine are used to represent the **congregation's** altar. The bread is broken into wafers, and one wafer is given to each person receiving.

Worship

Styles of worship

Liturgical worship:

This is **worship** which follows a set structure. Many churches follow the same **liturgical** service every week, but some use different hymns and prayers, for example, each week. The **Book of Common Prayer** contains many liturgical services.

Used by many churches for ordinary church services, such as the Catholic Mass.

Non-liturgical worship:

This is less-structured and more spontaneous **worship** which may be used if Christians want to **worship** God in the way which feels appropriate at the time, rather than having it planned in advance.

Used by some churches occasionally, or for normal services, e.g. by Pentecostal churches. This may be done privately and individually when Christians want to **worship** God at any time.

Worship

1. Focusing on God or religious themes. More likely to be done individually. Helpful in letting Christians reflect on their religion and its part in their life.

- **Focusing on icons** – some Christians, such as Orthodox Christians, focus on special paintings of Jesus and the saints to help with their worship – other Christians do not see icons as helpful.
- **Sacraments, e.g. Eucharist and Baptism** – often practised within a liturgy. These are special practices with individual meanings and importance. Some Christians feel they receive God's grace through these.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

(Matthew 28:19-20)

e.g. Christians **say** the **Lord's Prayer** – there are different versions adapted from a prayer Jesus taught his disciples. This allows Christians to ask God for provision and guidance.

Some **prayers** are **informal** – they are used for particular purposes.

Prayers are informal prayers, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

Prayer is communication with God. Christians **pray** in different ways and for many reasons – above all, to have a close relationship with God.

Prayer

Types of prayer

- Both types of **prayer** (set and informal) can be said in formal services, or in less formal / individual **worship**.
- Prayers can be used to praise God, to thank him, to ask for his forgiveness, and to ask him for help, for others or oneself.
 - Catholics may think set prayers are more important because many have been taught by Jesus / the Bible / the Church.

Significance and importance:

- The Catholic Church considers some prayers important because people who have had visions, or where things have happened, have been prayed for.
- Many Protestants believe places are important in the Bible but may go to a **pilgrimage** site at a certain time **worshipping** God. Other Christians have their own reasons.

“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

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Living the Christian Life: Part 2

There are several important Christian **celebrations**, especially those surrounding and including **Christmas** and **Easter**. These are often based on events in the Bible or in the lives of saints.

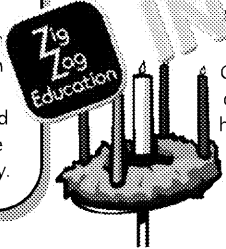


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Celebrations

Christmas and Advent: **Christmas** is the celebration of Jesus' birth, and **Advent** is the time of preparation leading up to it.

Christians celebrate these because they believe God sent his son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and **reconcile** them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and teach humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.



There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services, and midnight Mass) during **Advent** and on **Christmas** Eve, and church groups throughout Advent, to focus on the birth of Jesus.

Many Christians light candles on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Eve. These remind Christians of **prophets** and key events, the birth of Jesus, and/or of qualities such as love and peace. The white candle in the centre symbolises Jesus the **Light of the World** and is lit on **Christmas** Day.

Christians may fast in **Lent**; they may give up a certain type of food to help them focus on God, and remember all that he provides them with. They may spend more time focused on God in **prayer**, or give money to **charity**.

Christians often celebrate **Palm Sunday** to remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, showing Jesus as a king, but not a conventional king.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter Sunday**, the **resurrection**. There may be **vigils** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on Easter Sunday.

Easter, Holy Week and Lent:

On **Good Friday**, Christians celebrate Jesus being **crucified** to **atone** for Christians' **sins**, and on **Easter Sunday**, they celebrate him being **resurrected** from the dead, overcoming death. These are significant because Christians believe that through these Jesus brought them **salvation** and **reconciliation** with God.

Lent is the period of 40 days (plus Sundays) leading up to Easter, and including **Holy Week**, the week before Easter (which includes **Palm Sunday**, remembrance of the **cleansing of the Temple**, **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday**), which is historically a time for Christians to repent.

Christians often celebrate the **Last Supper** and Jesus washing his **disciples'** feet on **Maundy Thursday**.

History of Church growth:

- Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor – Constantine – other leaders; and trade.
- Churches have tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.



Culture of the Church

14

Evangelism is spreading the good news and hoping to **convert** people to Christianity. Christians do this because Jesus commanded them to; so they do so to serve God. Christians may also want to evangelise to help others through bringing them to Jesus. The Church may evangelise to maintain church members; needed to provide funds and volunteers to continue Christian work.

Missionary work is often abroad – often in countries without a strong Christian presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping with practical needs.

Alpha courses and Church **open houses** are open to the public – designed to attract people interested in Christianity, and Christianity, to learn more about the religion.

Centres and drop-ins where the homeless, elderly, or overly drunk people on a night out, can receive food, shelter and help, and which also provide a space to discuss religion.

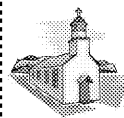
Charities which help with humanitarian support abroad and also inform people about Christianity, e.g. Christian Aid.

Examples of evangelism and missionary work

'And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."' (Mark 16:15 NRSV)

Christian Aid:

Christian Aid is a **charity** which mainly supports people practically, often in less economically developed countries, with the aim of ending poverty and aiding those who are suffering. They do this out of **compassion**, and because of other Christian teaching.



The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion**, e.g. by negotiation.

The **Church** has grown greatly since the time of Jesus, though it is now declining in some Western countries. The Church has tried to grow through **missionary** work and **evangelism**, which are important to many Christians.



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Christianity – Additional Religions

Jews may believe in **immortality of the soul**, **resurrection of the body**, or **reincarnation**.

Some Jews believe in equivalents of the Christian **heaven** and **hell**.
 But some believe that evil people will cease to exist at death.

Lack of certainty about the afterlife can be significant in focusing Jews on this life.

Judaism

17

The Jewish afterlife is referred to as **Olam Ha-Ba** (Hebrew for 'the world to come').

There is no fixed concept of the afterlife in Judaism.

'Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.' (Daniel 12:2 NRSV)

The Afterlife



'... Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Garden will have attained the object (of Life): for the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception.' (Qur'an 3:185)

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced. Non-religious people often argue that the afterlife does not exist.

Islam

Muslims believe in **judgement** at the end of time and **resurrection of the body**. They believe in the second coming of Jesus before the end of time.

Muslims believe in **heaven** and **hell**, like Christians, but NOT in **purgatory**.

Muslims believe that some people of some other religions such as Judaism and Christianity can go to **heaven** (unlike certain Christians who believe that only Christians can go to heaven).

Belief in the afterlife is significant in comforting Muslims and encouraging them to live good lives.

Buddhism

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Buddhists believe in **reincarnation**: when a person is reborn and lives another life.

For Buddhists, this is significant in making them want to live well so that they can achieve liberation from the cycle of birth and rebirth (**samsara**).

(Buddhists believe that life is suffering and want to be liberated from samsara so they can achieve the state of nibbana (**nirvana**).)

So Buddhists may practise meditation and help others in order to work towards this.

For some, this is significant in making them want to live good lives to achieve a better rebirth.

(Buddhists believe that good actions bring good consequences and vice versa – this is known as **kamma (karma)**.)

For Buddhists, their next life depends on their actions. Some Christians also believe this, but they also believe that their afterlife depends on being **saved** through Jesus.

Worship practices

The Jewish

Three daily prayers
Jews

Many Jews
prayer
tassels
Scripture
These

In Orthodox
are separate
prayer
women

Worship
(**salat**)
day, five

Muslims
perform

Prayer
middle
important
often
for the
will be
included

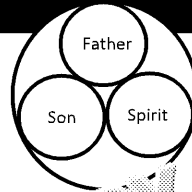
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1. Explain the concept of the Trinity and who it contains.

Most Christians believe in the Trinity...



The Trinity

It is important to Christians that we believe in one God, as the Bible is forbidden.

- celebrate the members of the **Trinity**, e.g. Jesus' birth at Christmas and the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**
- pray** in Jesus' name / pray to Jesus
- believe they experience the members of the Trinity in their lives

4. Do you believe in their beliefs?

Many Christians believe:

God the Father **created** the world and sent Jesus, God the **A** _____, to **save** humanity.

- The **Nicene Creed** states that Jesus is God and gives beliefs about the members of the **Trinity**.
- All of the members of the Trinity were present at Jesus' **baptism**.

God the Son was present at **B** _____ and helped with
B _____. He became the human being Jesus, born of a human
mother, Mary. He died to **save** humanity, before rising from the dead and
ascending to heaven. He will **C** _____ the living and the dead.

God the Holy Spirit guides Christians and helps them in their lives, living in their hearts. He was present at **creation**, has spoken through **prophets**, descended at Jesus' **D** _____, and at the **apostles** at **E** _____. A change to the **Nicene Creed** indicates that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son, but Orthodox Christians disagree and think the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father only.

3. Fill in the Bible quote.

5. Find a Bible quote about worshipping one God.
(Hint: Find one where the answer is in the question.)
is a good place to start.

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answer in the gaps above – one gap is deliberately repeated.

- A** – Son Moses
B – creation Judgement the Ten Commandments
C – destroy create judge
D – baptism crucifixion resurrection
E – Christmas Easter Pentecost

Reference:

Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the _____ and of life. There are _____ different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in _____ days, and then rests for a day. Plants and animals are created before humans.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly as it has created the earth, humans, plants and animals, then creates _____, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the _____ of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box to the right.

six tree universe
animals two woman

so God created man in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.' (Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

Interpretation
Some Christians **interpret** the bible **A**; they believe that the world was created in six days (and then God rested).
• Some Christians interpret the Bible **B**. They believe that God created the world and humanity, but that the biblical account of creation is spiritually, but not **A**, true.

2. Write...

Creation

Role of the Word and the Spirit:

- Genesis says that the spirit of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at creation and that everything was created through him.

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians **interpret** it differently.

The importance of creation for Christians today:

- Some Christians believe in the **doctrine** of the **Fall**...

... and need **saving**, so they are grateful for Jesus coming, allowing them to be reconciled to God / have a relationship with God.

- Many Christians believe that God gave them **dominion** over the earth.

They also believe that God charged them with **stewardship** over the earth, so they believe they should do this.

4. Find a Bible quote from John 1 about creation and write it here:

Reference:

5. Outline three Christian beliefs about creation. (3 marks)

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Many Christians believe that Jesus was the **incarnation** of God – God in the flesh. Most Christians believe he was fully human and fully God at the same time. He is also referred to as Christ (Greek for 'anointed one') and Son of God.

Significance for Christians today:

Shows that God wants to have a _____ with humans, and makes it easier to relate to him.

Many Christians believe Jesus fulfilled the Jewish _____, so they do not need to follow it.

Shows that there can be _____

Shows that God is _____ after death.

Shows that God is _____ and cares enough about humans to live with them and die for them.

1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box below.

law life compassionate
relationship powerful authority

4. Find examples in the gospels of Jesus' humanity. Make a few notes.

Biblical basis for the incarnation:

- The Gospel of John (1:1–18) refers to Jesus as being God **incarnate**.
- Jesus is referred to as God incarnate in the New Testament letters, e.g. 1 Timothy 3:16. Jesus is referred to as the incarnation in multiple places in the New Testament, this makes it seem more reliable.
- Jesus had **divine** abilities:
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- he appeared more than human at the **Transfiguration**
- he came back from the dead

3. Look up 1 Timothy 3:16 and the incarnation here:

Reference:

5. "If there is a God, do you think that it might come down to earth in human form?"

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The gospels record the **last days of Jesus' life**, including: the **Last Supper**; his betrayal; his arrest; his trials; his **crucifixion** and death; his **resurrection**; and his **ascension**. The suffering and death of Jesus are known as the **Passion**.

Jesus **praying** to God before he died showed his human side – he did suffer like other humans.

Last Days of Jesus' Life

Zig Zag Education

Significance of these events for understanding the person of Jesus Christ:

The **gospels** show that Jesus' death and **resurrection** fulfilled **C** _____ **Testament** **prophecy**, and so the purpose of Jesus' life was to achieve God's long-term plan for humanity.

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answer in each gap.

- A – sin _____ gentiles
B – _____ hate _____ the Fall _____ death
C – New _____ Old _____ Jewish
D – _____ divinity _____ humanity _____ forgiveness
E – reconciled _____ resurrected _____ crucified

Synopsis:

The **gospels** record that Jesus ate a last meal with his _____, telling them that his body and blood were given as a new _____ for the forgiveness of _____ sins. He was betrayed by his disciple _____ Judas, and tried in front of the High Priest and _____ council, the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate, and, in _____'s account, _____ the Jews convinced Pilate to kill Jesus, and he died by **crucifixion**. When _____, the _____ curtain tore in two. After Jesus' death on the _____, _____ noon, _____, _____ going to his tomb on the _____ morning (the third day after his death), _____ Jesus appeared, risen from the dead, to his **disciples**, and then **ascended** to heaven.

Jesus says that his blood is poured out for many – many Christians believe Jesus came to reunite God with the **A** _____ (non-Jews) as well as the Jews.

Shows Jesus came to die as a sacrifice, to **save** humanity. He tells his **disciples** that the forgiveness of **sins** is possible because of him, then dies to pay the price for human sin. His **resurrection** shows that he has also defeated **B** _____ – the punishment of sin.

Jesus' statements that he is the Son of God (to the High Priest) and that his kingdom is not of this world (to Pilate) show Jesus' awareness of his **D** _____. This shows Jesus came to reveal God's presence and nature to _____ and have a relationship.

The **Temple** curtain tearing from top to bottom is thought to symbolise that humans are no longer separated from God and that Jesus came to _____.

4. Find another Bible quote that relates to the crucifixion or resurrection and write it here:

Reference:

1. Fill in the words

Temple
Sunday Luke

3. Fill in the Bible quote.

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Salvation within Christianity refers to the belief that Jesus saved Christians from sin and death. **Law**, **sin**, **grace**, the Spirit, and **atonement** are all related concepts.

Grace and the Spirit:

Many Christians believe that **grace** is a gift from God, which can **save** humanity was an expression of God's grace. Many Christians also believe in grace through the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and **sacraments**.

1. Explain the concepts of salvation and atonement, and Jesus' role in these.

Salvation

Salvation:

It is what Jesus achieved for them.

Atonement:

It is how Jesus achieved salvation for them.



Different theories of atonement:

Some Christians believe in **original sin** – inherited from birth, a result of the **Fall**.

Others just believe in **personal sin** – things a Christian does wrong themselves.

Christians believe they need **saving** from **sin** – acting against God's will – so they can have a full relationship with God.

Law:

Jews try to achieve **salvation** by following the Jewish **law**.

Christians instead believe that salvation has come through Jesus' sacrifice – and that this fulfilled the Jewish law – though they may follow some of the Jewish law as well as following Jesus' teachings and example.

2. Give three reasons for the significance of atonement.

Significance of atonement:
Christians believe

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Some Christians believe certain people are **predestined** to be **saved**.

Some Christians think that people are **saved** if they use their **free will** to accept Jesus' sacrifice.

Jesus' death was a sacrifice which redeemed humans by paying the price required by **sin** – death.

Jesus' death overcame the forces of evil.

Atonement is a **divine** mystery.

3. Which understanding of who receives salvation (predestination or free will) makes more sense to you? Why?



Write a relevant Bible quote relevant to salvation from John 3 or Acts 4 and write it here:

Reference:



5. Explain two ways in which Jesus' death brought about salvation through Jesus' death (4 marks) (Exam question)

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Christian Beliefs

- Fill in the gaps with places Christians believe people go to after death. You will need to use some more than once.

'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

Many Christians believe that good people will go to _____, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:1-4). Some Christians believe on _____ that Jesus went to _____ because _____ that he was the Son of his Father' (John 14:6).

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to _____, a realm where they must do penance for their **sins**, before entering _____. In the **39 Articles of Religion**, the Church of England claims that _____ is not found in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in _____, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

Eschatology refers to the end of things – for example, the end of life (death) and the end of time. Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of time. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

- Find a Bible quote about life after death (use which is referred to above) and write it in the space below.

Reference:

In the **parable** of the **A** _____ and the goats, Jesus teaches that he will judge the end of time depending on their actions – the good will go to **heaven** and the

In the **parable** of the **B** _____, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **King** _____ / the _____ of the _____ and _____ to come at any time.

Some Christians believe in **the body**: the dead will be raised in new bodies at the end of time. Jesus taught that the dead would be raised from the dead (John 5:28–29).

Some Christians believe in **of the soul**: souls will go to **D** _____ / **hell** immediately after death. Jesus told the thief on the cross that he would be in paradise (Luke 23:43).

Some Christians believe in both **resurrection of the body** and **of the soul**: people will live on immediately after death, but will be given new bodies and **E** _____ at the end of time.

- Write the correct multiple-choice answer in the space below.

A – sheep cows
B – tenants sower
C – resurrection reincarnation
D – nirvana Hades
E – buried judged

- Find another parable or teaching about judgement and write it in the space below. Does it teach? (Hint: try Matthew 24 or 25.)

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1. Fill in the Bible quote.

Natural suffering is...

Evil is...

Moral suffering is...

2. Explain the concepts of natural suffering, evil and moral suffering.

e.g. pain caused by a tsunami or earthquake, or by disease

e.g. moral theft, or adultery

If God is righteous nature, it arises: and suffering

Why the problem to question their existence of God

People may believe he must be **omnipotent**. However, believe a **omnipotent** God who **evil** and **suffering** and will to prevent might conclude that be **as** allowing evil and

Types of suffering

The Problem of Evil/Suffering and God's Nature



Problems for Christians

If God is not **omnipotent**, this seems to undermine **omnipotent**, which is based on belief in a loving God, who is fair, and holds that God was powerful enough to create the universe and defeat **evil**.

• If God is **omnipotent**, righteous and **omnipotent**, it does not make **evil** and **suffering** for him to allow **evil** and **suffering**.

3. Fill in the gaps in the two boxes! Use the words in the box to the right. You will need to use some words more than once.

with **benevolent** **sense** **refused** **death** **Christianity**

4. Give another two examples of natural suffering and moral suffering.

Natural suffering:

- 1)
- 2)

Moral suffering:

- 1)
- 2)

5. Do you think natural suffering or moral suffering is a problem for Christians? Why?

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1. Fill in the gaps.
Use the words in the box below.

**natural
suffering
saved
just
free will
trial**

Some argue it is more loving for God to have given humans _____, meaning **evil** may be caused by human choice.

- ✎ Does not solve problem of _____ **suffering**.
- ✎ Some think it is worth having evil to have free will, but others disagree.

Some Christians believe **evil** and _____ are a _____ and a test.

- ✎ Even if **suffering** is necessary, surely less **suffering** is necessary.



Christians may feel that e _____ **pray** for someone's suffer

- ✎ It (does / does not) ma _____ or answer some praye

If there was no (suffering) opportunity for **charity** _____

- ✎ There would always be _____ (Psalms/Esther) and Job's understanding.

- ✎ This cannot be dispr _____

4. Find a relevant _____

The vale of soul-making theory suggests that humans need evil and suffering to develop morally and spiritually.

The Book of Job shows suffering as a test of character – Job...

The Book of Job also shows that suffering tests faith – Job...

Psalms 119 shows _____ s _____ be _____

_____ to punish humans.

- ✎ Jesus _____ humans.

- ✎ It is not always the **evil** who **suffer**.

Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

Solutions to the problem of evil and suffering can be biblical, theoretical and practical. Some may seem more successful than others.

2. How does the book of Job show suffering as a test of character and faith?

5. Do you think that free will provides a good enough reason for a God to allow evil and suffering? Why / why not?

6. **Extension:** Which do you think is the strongest solution given here? Which do you think is the weakest? Give reasons for both.

Strongest:

Why:

Weakest:

Why:

7. **Extension** _____ and suffer _____ (Exam Pa

Argue for _____ to Christa _____ follows fr

Make som _____ answer in

Reference _____

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1. Fill in the four blank worship activities using the descriptions.

Worship covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**

Liturgy:

This is a set **worship** service, involving set items, such as set words, set hymns and set **prayers**. This (and **liturgical worship**) may be used to help to make worship feel special, and also to allow a congregation to become familiar with the words and practices used

Liturgical worship:

This is **worship** which follows a structure. Many churches may follow the same **liturgical** style every week, but use different hymns and **prayers**, for example, each week. The **Book of Common Prayer** contains many liturgical services.

Styles of worship

Worship activities

1) _____ – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important in helping Christians understand their **faith** better and in encouraging them to live their lives and have a full relationship with God.

- **Prayer** – used to teach about God, in group or private. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through the Bible and gives his **grace**.
- **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.

2) _____ – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

3) _____ – focusing on God or religious themes. More likely to be done individually. Helpful in letting Christians reflect on their religion and its part in their life.

2. Explain what non-liturgical worship is, and why it might be used.

Non-liturgical worship:

- **Focusing on icons** – some Christians, such as Orthodox, focus on special paintings of Jesus and the Virgin Mary in their **worship** – other Christians do not see this as important.

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

4) _____ **Eucharist** and **Baptism** – often seen as special practices with individual importance. Some Christians feel they receive God's grace through these practices.

4. Explain two reasons why Christians worship God. (4 marks) (Exam Practice)

5. Why do you think worship is important to Christians?

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Also known as Mass, Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper, the **Eucharist** is eating bread and drinking wine. This follows Jesus' command at the **Last Supper** to remember him in this way and to remember that his body (bread) and blood (wine) were sacrificed for the forgiveness of **sins**. It is important in reminding Christians what God has done for them.

Sacraments are important practices which help Christians **worship** God. Some Christians feel that they receive God's **grace** through these and that the sacraments are powerful in themselves, while others see sacraments as **symbolic**. **Ordinances** are practices which are important for Christians but which are not given the significance of sacraments.

Some denominations (such as the Catholic Church) observe seven **sacraments**: **Eucharist**, **Baptism**, Confirmation, Penance, Matrimony, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick.

Most Christian **denominations** observe **baptism** and the **Eucharist** as **sacraments**, e.g. the Church of England 39 Articles affirm two sacraments.

Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe **sacraments**.

Sacraments

Eucharist

In the Anglican Church, ordained clergy bless the bread and wine and distribute it; often the members of the **congregation** come to the **A** _____. The **Eucharist** will be part of a **liturgy** and is done with **bread** and **wine**. The bread is broken into **wafers**, and the wine is drunk from one chalice. A blessing will be given for those who do not receive bread and wine.

The Catholic Church believes in **B** _____. that the bread and wine somehow become the body and blood of Jesus. Catholics must have a special First Communion service to receive the **Eucharist**. The **39 Articles** (Church of England) claim there is no **B** _____.

The Baptist Church only **baptises** **C** _____ (and older children). They must make promises to commit their life to God and are fully immersed in water.

Some Churches practise infant and adult **baptism** (people have a choice).

In the Anglican Church, **infant baptism**, also known as **christening**, is common. A young child is **anointed** with water from a **D** _____, and the parents and godparents make promises to raise the child in the Christian **faith**.

Baptism is...

1. Write the correct multiple-choice answers in the gaps.

- A – altar lectern pulpit
B – real presence incarnation transubstantiation
C – adults infants teenagers
D – spoon font pool

2. Fill in the missing words in the quote.

5. Explain two reasons why sacraments are important to Christians. (4 marks) (Exam Practice)

6. Extension: Find out why Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe sacraments.

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“Pray then in this way:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your
will be done, on earth as it
is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread. And
forgive us our debts, as we
also have forgiven our
debtors. And do not bring
us to the time of trial, but
rescue us from the evil
one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

e.g. Christians **say** the

_____ – there are

different versions adapted

from a prayer Jesus taught his

disciples. This allows Christians

to ask God for provision and

guidance.

Some **prayers** are **A**, which Christians may use for particular purposes.

Some **prayers** are **B**, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

1. Which prayer did Jesus teach his disciples to say?



Prayer

Types of prayer

Both types of **prayer** (set and informal) can be said in formal services, or in less formal / individual **worship**.

- Prayers can be used to praise God, to thank him, to ask for his forgiveness, and to ask him for help, for others or oneself.
- Catholics may think set prayers are more important because many have been taught by Jesus / the Bible / the Church.
- Liberal Protestants may see informal prayers as more important as they build a personal relationship with God.

2. Write A or B next to each type of prayer to match it to the correct box.



informal prayers



set prayers

4. When teaching the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6, Jesus said that God would forgive someone's sins if they did what?



Prayer is...

3. What is prayer and what is its purpose?

7.

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1. Give two different reasons why pilgrimage / pilgrimage places may be thought important.

Significance and importance:

♦ The Catholic Church...



♦ Many Protestants...

Walsingham Iona
Taizé Jerusalem

3. Write the name of the pilgrimage site next to its description. Use the words in the box to the left.

_____ – important because Jesus taught here.

_____ – important

because a vision

was seen here.

_____ comes to her.

_____ and

_____ – important

because they each host a

Christian community.

Places of pilgrimage

Pilgrimage

2. What is pilgrimage, and why do Christians go on pilgrimage?

History:

Pilgrimage is Christian, but began making sites important Jesus and the

The Jews went to Jerusalem (43). Some Christians should go on Jesus did, who a Jewish tradition not need to

Pilgrimage...

4. Explain two reasons why Christians may go on pilgrimage. (4 marks) (Exam Practice)



5. Give three other places Christians may go on pilgrimage.

1)

2)

3)

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1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box to the right. You will need to use some more than once.

Good Friday reconcile Lent salvation Ad

Christmas and _____:

Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth, and _____ is the time of preparation leading up to it.

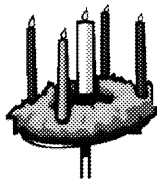
Christians celebrate these _____ because they believe God's son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and _____ them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and _____ humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.

There are several important Christian **celebrations**, especially those surrounding and including **Christmas** and **Easter**. These are events in the Bible or in the lives of saints.

Celebration In **Advent**, Christians may spend more time **praying** – to improve their relationship with God, who **symbolically** enters their lives at (Christmas/Easter), and to ask for peace in the world.

There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services, carol services and midnight Mass) during (**Lent/Advent**) and on **Christmas** Day, and Advent groups throughout Advent, to focus on Jesus and welcome him.

Many Christians light candles on an **Advent** wreath in church on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Day. These remind Christians of (**saints/prophets**) and key figures leading up to the birth of Jesus, and/or of qualities such as love and hope. The white candle in the centre symbolises Jesus the light of the world and is lit on **Christmas** Day.



Christians may (fast/diet) in **Lent**; they may give up a certain type of food to help them focus on God, and remember all that he provides them with. They may spend more time focused on God in **prayer**, or give money to **charity**.

Christians often celebrate **Palm Sunday** to remember Jesus' (carnival/triumphal) entry into Jerusalem, showing Jesus as a king, but not a conventional king.

Easter, Holy Week and

On _____, Christians are being **crucified** to atone for their sins, and on **Easter Sunday** they are being **resurrected** from death. These are significant events that Christians believe that through _____ and _____

_____ is the period of _____ (Sundays) leading up to _____

Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter, includes **Palm Sunday**, **Maundy Thursday**, **Good Friday**, and **Easter Sunday**, which includes the **cleansing of the Temple** (_____), which Christians to repent.

Christians often celebrate **Good Friday** and **Maundy Thursday**. On **Maundy Thursday**, Jesus celebrated the **Last Supper** and Jesus washed his **disciples** (feet/hands) on **Maundy Thursday**.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter Sunday**, the **resurrection**. There may be **vigils/wakes** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on **Easter Sunday**.

3. Find a Bible quote about the events that Christmas celebrates, and write it here: (Hint: use the start of Matthew's Gospel or Luke's Gospel.)

4. Find a Bible quote about the events that Easter celebrates, and write it here: (Hint: look for the resurrection in the New Testament letters, and write it here:)

5. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and write down three points from it.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Reference:

Reference:

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1. What is evangelism? Why do Christians / does the Church evangelise?

History of Church growth:

- Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor – Constantine – other leaders and teachers.
- Churches have tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.

Evangelism is...

Missionary work is often abroad – often in areas with a strong presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping with _____ considerations.

Future of the Church

The Church has grown greatly since the time of Jesus, though it is now declining in some Western countries. The Church has tried to grow through missionary work and evangelism, which are important to many Christians.

Examples of evangelism and missionary work

_____ which help with humanitarian support abroad and also inform people about Christianity, e.g. Christian Aid.

Do you think it is right for Christians to focus on evangelism? Do you think they should only seek to help people in need?

(Mark)

3. Fill in the words in the gaps.

4. Outline three purposes of evangelism. (3 marks) (Exam Practice)

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1. What is ecumenism? Why is it important?

Ecumenism is...

The **local church**, or **parish**, is important because it tries to help local believers and the local area with **faith** and with practical issues.



How the local church helps believers and the community

Local Church

How the local church helps believers and the community

Churches want to help support the **faith** of others.

Church members may want to live with their lives due to **community**.

Churches and Christians want to **evangelise** God (see 1 Peter 5: 1–4) and gain more **faith**.

2. Fill in the (five) gaps about what a church does in the local community – with no prompts!

- Provides **service** groups, e.g. to study the **Bible** or help Christians understand their faith, strengthen their Christian faith, practise Christian teachings in their everyday lives.
- Provides fellowship – the opportunity to spend time with other Christians. This allows believers to discuss their **faith** and form friendships.
- Provides activities for children, to help them to learn about **faith** and grow in their **faith**.
- Church members will visit those who are **ill** or unable to attend church so Christians will receive spiritual and practical support in hard times.
- Churches may do **outreach** work, such as running **courses** and activities to help non-Christians come to **faith**. These activities may provide enjoyment and support for those in the community who need practical support or companionship.
- The Church may speak out about local issues or help local charities to add weight to the community voice and give support to local projects.

4. Read 1 Peter 5:1–4. Write down what you take from it.

1)

2)

3)

3. Find a Bible quote which provides a way in which the local church may help others in the local community, and write it here: (Hint: try Matthew 25 or Mark 10.)

How do you think different churches work together ecumenically on a local level?

Reference:



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1. What does Christian Aid aim to do – and how and why does it do this?

Christian Aid:



Charity – Christians believe that they should help, and give to, others.

- Jesus taught them that they ought to help others, including in the parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew **A** _____, where he indicates that those who perform acts of **charity** will go to **B** _____, because helping others is a service to God. Those who do not help others will go to **C** _____.
- St Paul also teaches that Christians should love everyone and help them through **D** _____, rather than as an empty gesture (in 1 _____).
- Christian beliefs differ about whether they should give all their possessions to charity, give a **E** _____, or approach charity in a different way. Some feel that helping others is more important than giving money, but many feel that they must give money/goods as well as any other help.
- The worldwide church promotes giving charity for these reasons.

2. Write the multiple answers

“Truly I tell you, as you did the least of these, you are members of my family, you have done it to me.”
(Matthew 25:40)

Role and importance:

- To help support all Christians.
 - To promote charity.
- 1)

Worldwide Church

In some countries Christians are **persecuted** for their **faith** – they may not be allowed to worship publicly or own Bibles, e.g. in North Korea.

The **worldwide Church** can mean all Christians, or all churches of a particular **denomination**. Many denominations work together as members of the World Council of Churches, though the Catholic Church is not a member.

2)

If you were a persecuted Christian, how do you think you would respond? Why?

3)

The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion** e.g. by negotiation.

3. Give another three roles of the worldwide Church. (Hint: use the other boxes as prompts.)

4. What do you think is the most important thing the worldwide Church does? Why?



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1. What is the afterlife called in Judaism?

Judaism

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced. !

The Jewish afterlife is referred to as _____ (Hebrew for 'the world to come').

Jews may believe in immortality of the soul, resurrection of the dead or reincarnation.

Some Jews believe in equivalents of the Christian heaven and hell.

But some believe that evil people will cease to exist at death.

3. Why might certainty about the afterlife be significant?

Lack of certainty about the afterlife can be significant...

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2. Fill in the quote.

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The Afterlife

4. List two similarities and two differences between belief in afterlife in Christianity and Judaism.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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Christianity – Additional Religions – Afterlife

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced.

1. Though they believe in resurrection of the body, which related concept do Muslims not believe in?

Muslims believe in **judgement** at the end of time and **resurrection of the body** but NOT in _____

They believe in the second coming of _____ before the end of the world.

Muslims believe in **heaven** and **hell**, like Christians, but NOT in **purgatory**.

Muslims believe that some people of some other religions _____ and _____ can go to heaven. This is different from certain Christians who believe that only Christians can go to heaven.

Belief in the afterlife is significant for Muslims as it is comforting and encourages them to live good lives.

3. Fill in the quote.



(Qur'an 3:185)

4. List two similarities and two differences between belief in the afterlife in Christianity and Islam.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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1. Name the Buddhism concept that people are born again when they die.

Buddhism

Buddhists believe in _____
when a person is reborn
and lives another life.

For some, this is significant
in making them want to
live good lives to achieve a
better rebirth.

(Buddhists believe that
good actions bring good
consequences and
bad actions bring bad
consequences (karma).)

Different religions believe different things about
the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced.

What do
Buddhists
believe their
next life
depends on?

For Buddhists, their next life
depends on their _____.

Some Christians also believe
this, but they also believe that
their afterlife depends on being
saved through Jesus.

2. What is the
name of the
state of
liberation from
the cycle of
birth and
death
(samsara)
which
Buddhists
believe in?

For some, this is significant in making
them want to live lives which will help
them to achieve liberation from the
cycle of birth and rebirth (**samsara**).

(Buddhists believe that life is suffering
and want to be liberated from samsara
so they can achieve the state of
_____.)

So Buddhists may practise meditation
and help others in order to work
towards this.

The Afterlife

4. List one similarity and three differences between belief in life after death in Christianity and Buddhism.

Similarity 1:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

Difference 3:

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1. What are the differences between Orthodox Judaism and Reform Judaism with regards to women and men during worship?



Worship is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practiced in exactly the same ways.

The Jewish holy building is a **synagogue**. Jews **worship** here, as well as elsewhere.

Judaism

Three lots of **prayers** should be said daily in the **synagogue** or wherever a Jew is: evening, morning and afternoon.

Jewish services contain **prayer**, reading of the **Torah** and **psalms**, discussion of the **Scriptures** and sometimes music.

2. What are the differences between Orthodox Judaism and Reform Judaism regarding language services led in?

Many (more commonly male) Jews wear a **prayer shawl** (tallit) and a **kippah** (skullcap) when they **pray**. **Scripture** is commanded in the **Torah**.

Orthodox services....

but Reform services...

In Orthodox Judaism,...

In Reform Judaism,...

Worship

3. Why has synagogue worship been particularly important to Jews since around the middle of the first century CE?

Worship is significant to Jews because:

- they believe **worship** serves God and they want to do this. It also allows them to have a relationship with him.
-
-
-
- Jews believe God is present with them when several of them worship him together.
- Jews want to understand God's word in the Scriptures because commandments are important to them.

4. List two similarities and two differences between worship in Christianity and (any branch of) Judaism.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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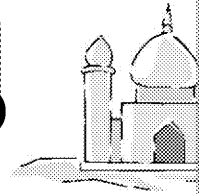
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1. How many times a day must Muslims pray (or how many sets of prayers must they say)?

Worship

Worship is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practised in exactly the same ways.



Worship for Muslims is mainly **prayer (salah)**. Muslims must pray _____ times a day, facing Makkah in Saudi Arabia. 'Establish regular Prayer: for Prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds; and remembrance of Allah is the greatest (thing in life) without doubt...' (Qur'an 29:45)

Muslims perform _____ before **praying** and perform _____ while praying.

Women **pray** at home, or in a different section of the mosque from men.

Prayers on _____ at midday are the most important. Muslims will often attend the **mosque** for these, and the imam will lead a service including a talk/sermon.

Worship is significant to Muslims because:

- **prayer/worship** is one of the five pillars of Islam
- Muslims want to have a good relationship with Allah
- _____
- _____
- _____

2. Prayers on which day are most important for Muslims?

Islam

The Muslim holy building is a **mosque**. Muslims **worship** here, as well as _____.

3. Give another two reasons why worship is significant to Muslims.

4. List two similarities and two differences between worship in Christianity and Islam.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

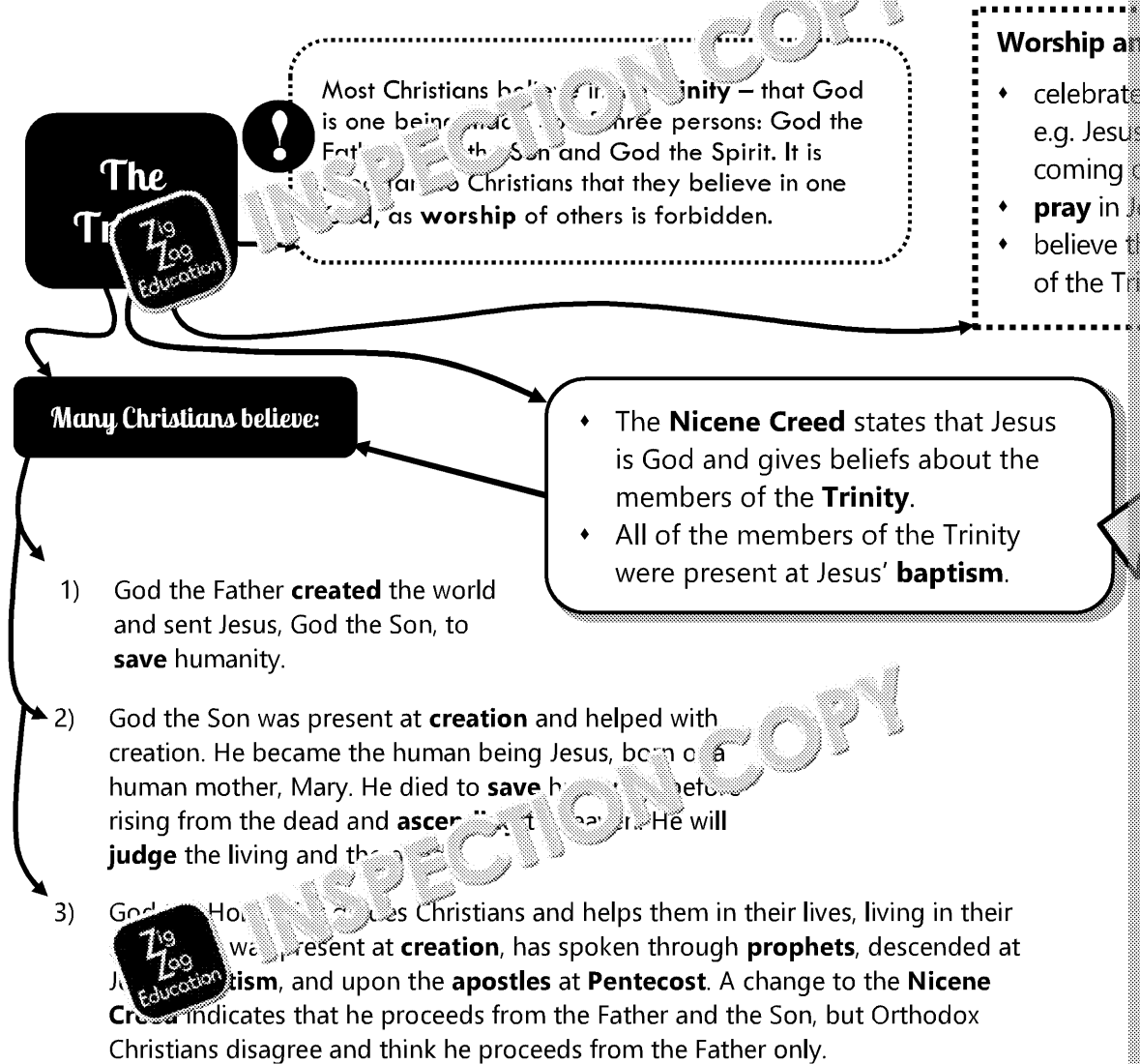
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Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the universe and of life. There are two different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in six days, and then rests for a seventh day. The animals are created before humankind.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly; after God has created the earth, he creates man. He then creates plants and animals, and then creates woman, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.'
(Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

Creation

Role of the Word and the Spirit:

- Genesis says that the spirit of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at **creation** and that every **thing** was created through him.

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians **interpret** it differently.

The importance of creation

- Some Christians believe that the world was created by God, and that the world is a **gift** from God. They believe that **grace** comes from God, and that we should be **thankful** for it.
- Many Christians believe that the world was created by God, and that the world is a **gift** from God. They believe that **grace** comes from God, and that we should be **thankful** for it.
- They believe that **grace** comes from God, and that we should be **thankful** for it.

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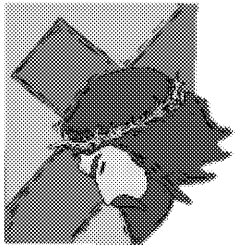
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Many Christians believe that Jesus was the **incarnation** of God, coming into the flesh. Most Christians believe he was fully human and fully God at the same time. He is also referred to as Christ (Greek for 'anointed one') and Son of God.

Significance for Christians today:



Shows that God wants to have a relationship with humans, and makes it easier to relate to him.

Many Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled the Jewish **law**, so they do not need to follow it.



The Incarnation

Means Jesus' **authority** was from God.

Shows that there can be life after death.

Shows that God is **powerful**.

Shows that...

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The gospels record the **last days of Jesus' life**, including: the **Last Supper**; his betrayal; his arrest; his trials; his **crucifixion** and death; his **resurrection**; and his **ascension**.

The suffering and death of Jesus are known as the **Passion**.



Jesus **prayed** to God. He died showing his human side – he did suffer like other humans.

Last Days of Jesus' Life

Summary:

The **gospels** record that Jesus' body and blood were given. He was betrayed by his disciple Judas. The Council, the Roman Government. The Jews convinced Pilate to crucify him. The **Temple** curtain tore in two. Jesus went to his tomb on the Sabbath. He appeared, risen from the dead.

Jesus says that his blood is poured out for many. Jesus came to reunite God with the **gentiles**.

Significance of these events for understanding the person of Jesus Christ:

Shows Jesus tells his disciples about his death because of his **resurrection**.

The **gospels** show that Jesus' death and **resurrection** fulfill the **Old Testament prophecy**, and so the purpose of Jesus' life was to achieve God's long-term plan for humanity.

Jesus' statements make him the Son of God (to the High Priest) and that his kingdom is not of this world (to Pilate) show Jesus' awareness of his **divinity**. This shows Jesus came to reveal God's presence and nature.

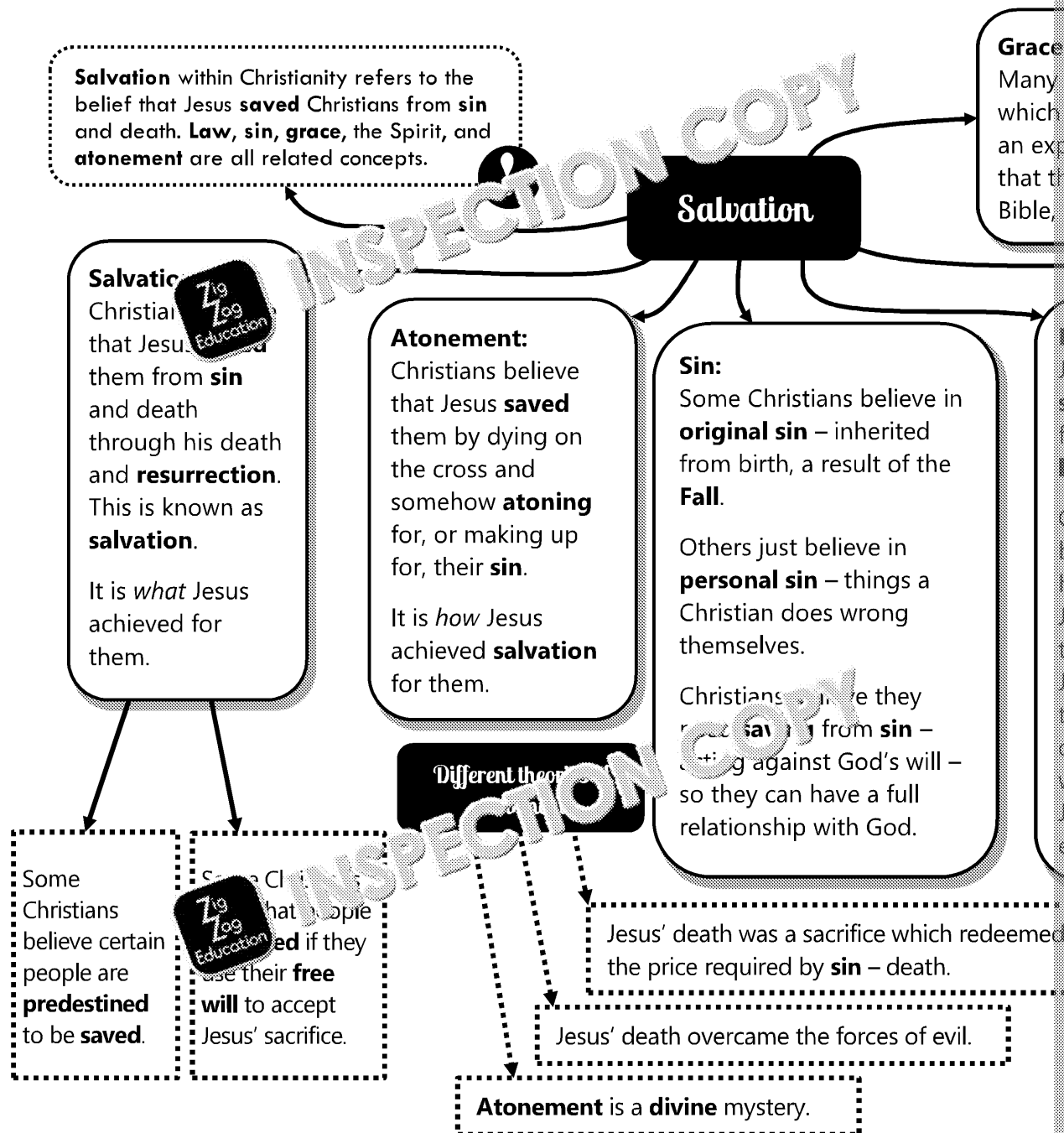
The **Temple** tearing from top to bottom is the symbol that humans are separated from God and that Jesus came so that humans and God could be **reconciled** and their relationship restored.



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Christian Beliefs

Many Christians believe that good people will go to **heaven**, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:2–4). Some Christians believe only Christians will go to heaven, because Jesus said that he was the 'way' to '[God the] Father' (John 14:6).



In the **parable** of the bridesmaids, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **Kingdom of God** at the end of the world and **judgement** to come at any time.

'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

Zig Zag Education

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to **purgatory**, a realm where they must do penance for their **sins**, before entering **heaven**. In the **39 Articles of Religion**, the Church of England claims that purgatory is not found in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in **hell**, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

Eschatology refers to the end of things – for example, the end of the world (the end of time). Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of the world. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

Realms after death

Judgement

Eschatology

Some Christians believe in the **immortality of the soul**, but will be reunited with God.

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Natural suffering is pain which is caused not by a person, but by natural events

e.g. pain caused by an earthquake, or a flood

Evil is a morally bad intention or action, often resulting in **moral suffering** – pain which is caused by a deliberate human action

e.g. murder, theft



Types

The Problem of Evil/Suffering and Natural Disasters

Problems for Christians:

- ♦ If God is not **benevolent**, **righteous** or **omnipotent**, this seems to undermine Christianity, which is based on belief in a loving God, who is fair, and holds that God was powerful enough to create the universe and prevent death.
- ♦ If God is benevolent, righteous and omnipotent, it does not make sense for him to allow **evil** and **suffering**.



'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.'

(Psalm 103:8 NRSV)



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Christian Beliefs

Some argue it is more loving for God to have given humans **free will**, meaning **evil** may be caused by human choice.

- ✎ Does not solve problem of **natural suffering**.
- ✎ Some think it is worth having evil if we have free will, but others disagree.

Some Christians believe **evil** and **suffering** are a trial and a test.

- ✎ Even if **suffering** is necessary, surely less **suffering** is necessary.

The **vale of soul-making theory** suggests that humans need **evil** and **suffering** to develop morally and spiritually.

The *Book of Job* shows suffering as a test of character – Job proves he is a good person even when bad things happen to him.

The *Book of Job* shows that through suffering tests, Job builds a stronger relationship with God through **praying** about his misfortune.

Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

If there was no **suffering**, there would be no opportunity for **charity** – helping others who are suffering.

- ✎ There would always be people to help in



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Worship covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**



Liturgy:

This is a set **worship** service involving set items, set hymns and set prayers. This (and **liturgical worship**) is used to help to make worship feel special, and also to help people to become familiar with the words and actions.

- ♦ **Sermon/Talk** – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important in helping Christians understand the **faith** better and encouraging them to live good lives and have a full relationship with God.

- ♦ **Bible reading** – used to teach God's will, in group or private **worship**. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through the Bible and gives his **grace**.

- ♦ **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.

- ♦ **Prayer** – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

Worship

Styles of worship

Worship activities

Liturgical worship
This is **worship** structure. Many follow the same every week but hymns and **prayer** each week. The **Prayer** contains services.

Non-liturgical
This is less-structured. Christians want time, rather than a set service.

- ♦ **Meditation** – focusing on God or religious themes. More likely to be done individually. Helpful in letting Christians reflect on their life or their relationship with God.

- ♦ **Focus** – focus on God's word
- ♦ **Sacrament** – within meaning God's word

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

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Also known as Mass, Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper, the **Eucharist** is eating bread and drinking wine. This follows Jesus' command at the **Last Supper** to remember him in this way and to remember that his body (bread) and blood (wine) were sacrificed for the forgiveness of **sins**. It is important in reminding Christians what God has done for them.

In the Anglican Church, ordained clergy bless the bread and wine and distribute it; often members of the **congregation** come to the **altar**. The **Eucharist** will be part of a **liturgy**. The bread is thin wafers, and the wine is usually in one chalice. A blessing will be given for those who do not receive bread and wine.

The Catholic Church believes in **transubstantiation**: that the bread and wine somehow become the body and blood of Jesus. Catholics must have a special First Communion service to receive the **Eucharist**. The **39 Articles** (Church of England) claim there is no transubstantiation.

Other Churches also celebrate the **Eucharist** in different ways.

Some Churches practise infant and adult **baptism** (people have a choice).

The Baptist Church only **baptises** adults (and older children). They must make promises to commit their life to God and are fully immersed in water.

Sacraments are important practices which help Christians **worship** God. Some Christians feel that they receive God's **grace** through these and that the sacraments are powerful in themselves while others see sacraments as **symbolic**. **Ordinances** are practices which are important for Christians but which are not given the significance of sacraments.

Sacraments

Eucharist

Baptism

In the Anglican Church, **infant baptism**, also known as **christening**, is common. A young child is **anointed** with water from a **font**, and the parents and godparents make promises to raise the child in the Christian **faith**.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

(Matthew 28:19 NRSV)

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“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

e.g. Christians **say** the **Lord's Prayer** – there are different versions, adapted from a prayer Jesus taught his disciples. This shows Christians to ask God for provision and guidance.

Some **prayers** are **set prayers** – exact prayers which Christians use. Christians may use these for particular purposes.

Some **prayers** are **informal prayers**, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

Prayer is communication with God. Christians **pray** in different ways and for different reasons – above all, to have a close relationship with God.

Prayer

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Significance and importance:

- ♦ The Catholic Church considers certain places important because of people who have lived there, or visions that have happened there.
- ♦ Many Protestants do not believe places are important in themselves, but may go to a **pilgrimage** site to spend time **worshipping** with other Christians or for their own reasons.



Jerusalem – important because Jesus taught, died and rose here.

Walsingham – important because a vision of Mary was seen here and there are shrines to her.

London
became
Christian

Places of pilgrimage

Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage involves going on a physical journey in order to complete a spiritual journey. It helps Christians to focus on and deepen their faith.

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There are several important Christian **celebrations** throughout the year, including **Christmas** and **Easter**. These are often based on events in the Bible or in the lives of Christians.

Christmas and Advent:

Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birth. **Advent** is the time of preparation leading up to Christmas.

Christians celebrate these because they believe God sent his son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and **reconcile** them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and teach humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.

Celebrations

In **Advent**, Christians may spend time reflecting on their lives – to improve their relationships and **symbolically** enters their lives and ask for peace in the world.

There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services and midnight Mass) during **Advent** and on **Christmas**. Some church groups throughout Advent, to focus on Jesus and his teachings.

Many Christians light candles on an **Advent** wreath in church on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Day. These remind Christians of the **prophets** and key figures leading up to the birth of Jesus, such as love and hope. The white candle in the centre symbolises the light of the world and is lit on **Christmas** Day.



Christians may also, in **Lent**, they may give up something to focus on God, and the Lenten season reminds them with. They may spend time reflecting on God in **prayer**, or give money to charity.

Christians often celebrate *Palm Sunday* to remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where he was hailed as king, but not a conventional king.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter** Sunday, the **resurrection**. Christians may hold **vigils** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on Easter Sunday.

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History of Church growth:

- Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine, and church leaders, and the Church has tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.

Evangelism is spreading the Gospel and hoping to convert people to Christianity. Christians do this because Jesus commanded them to. Christians may also want to evangelise to help the world. The Church may evangelise to maintain church growth and have more hands and volunteers to continue Christian work.

Missionary work is often abroad – often in countries without a strong Christian presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping with practical considerations.

Future of the Church

The **Church** has **grown** greatly since the time of Jesus, but is now declining in some Western countries. The Church is expected to grow through **missionary** work and **evangelism**, which are important to many Christians.

Alpha courses to the public interested in Christianity and to teach the basics of the faith.

Centres for help, and support for people with problems such as alcoholism, drug use, and mental health issues.

Examples of evangelism and missionary work

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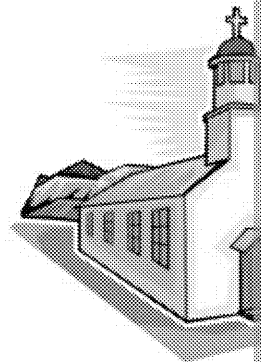


The **local church, or parish**, is important because it tries to help local believers and the local area with **faith** and with practical issues.

- ♦ **Worship** services and meeting groups, where people can study the **Bible** or **pray**. These help believers to understand their faith, strengthen their Christian identity and live out the Christian teachings in their everyday lives.
- ♦ Provides fellowship – the opportunity to spend time with other Christians. This allows believers to discuss their **faith** and form friendships.
- ♦ Provides activities for children, to help them to learn about Christianity and grow in their **faith**.
- ♦ Church members will visit those who are ill or unable to attend church so Christians will receive spiritual and practical support in hard times.
- ♦ Churches may do *outreach* work, such as running Alpha courses and activities to help non-Christians come to **faith**. These activities may provide enjoyment and support for those who are part of the community who need extra support or companionship.
- ♦ The Church may speak out about local issues or help local charities to add weight to the community voice and give support to local projects.

How the local church helps believers and the community

Local Church



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Christian Aid:

Christian Aid is a **charity** which mainly supports people practically, often in less economically developed countries, with the aim of ending poverty and aiding those who are suffering. They do this out of **compassion**, and because of other Christian teaching.

Charity – Christians believe that they should help, and give

- ♦ Jesus taught them that they ought to help others, including sheep and goats. In Matthew 25, where he indicates that those who help others will go to **heaven** because helping others is a good thing, and those who do not help others will go to **hell**.
- ♦ St Paul also teaches that Christians should love everyone with **compassion**, rather than as an empty gesture (in 1 Corinthians 13).
- ♦ Christian's beliefs differ about whether they should give charity, give a tithe, or approach charity in a different way. For many, helping others is more important than giving money, but many give money/goods as well as any other help.
- ♦ The worldwide Church promotes giving charity for these reasons.

Role and importance:

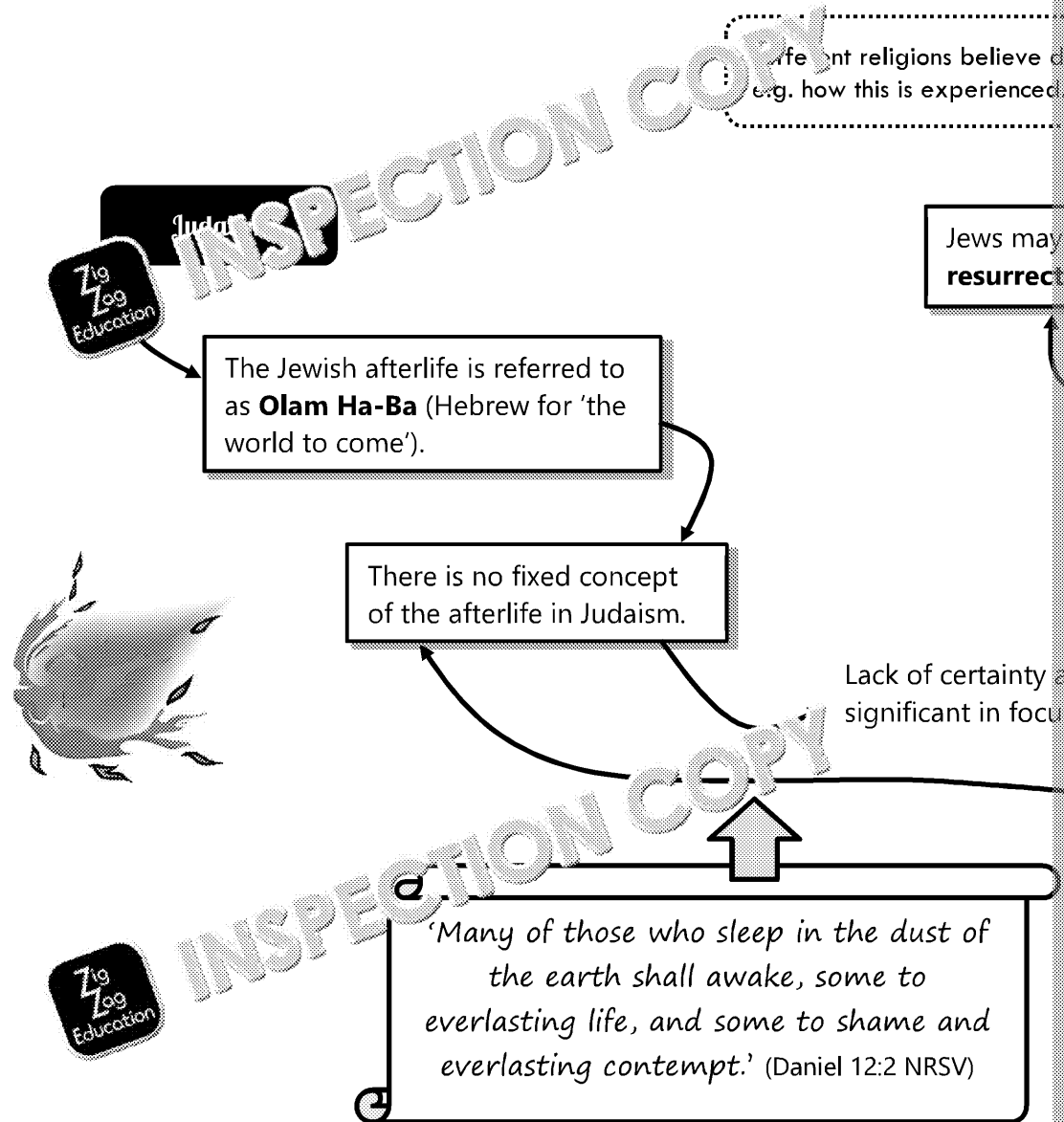
- ♦ To help coordinate beliefs and practices so Christians know how to live out their faith.
- ♦ To help Christians work together for peace and **reconciliation**.
- ♦ To help support all Christians.
- ♦ To **evangelise**, to **convert** more Christians.
- ♦ To promote charity.

The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion**, e.g. by negotiation.

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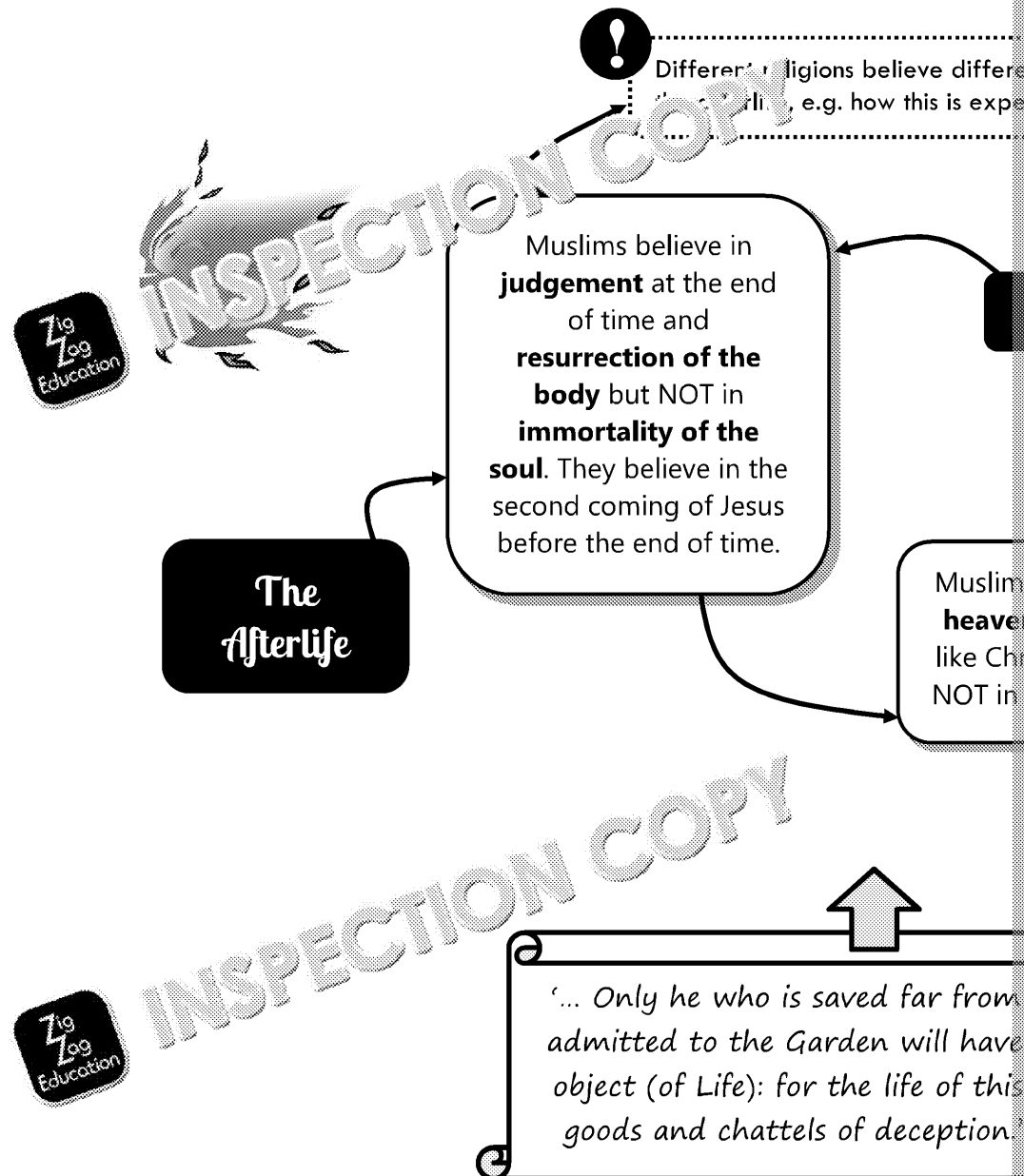




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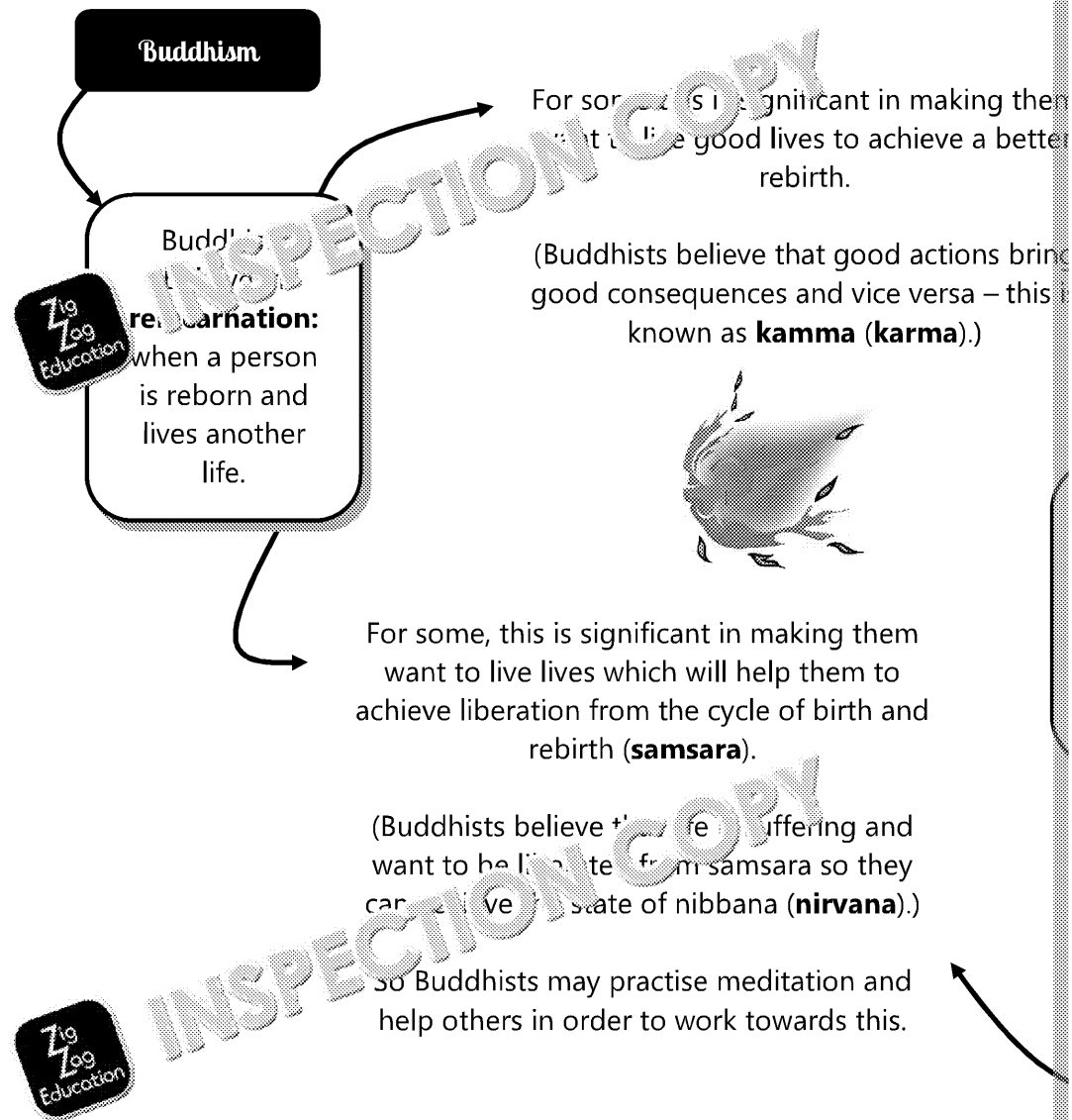




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Christianity – Additional Religions – Worship

Worship is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practised in exactly the same ways.



The Jewish holy building **synagogue**. Jews **worship** as elsewhere.

Prayers should be said in the **synagogue** or wherever a Jew is: evening, morning and afternoon.

Many (more commonly male) Jews wear **prayer** shawls (**tallit**) with tassels/fringes and boxes containing Scripture (**tefillin**) when they **pray**. These are commanded in the **Torah**.

In Orthodox Judaism, women and men are separated during **worship** and **prayer**. In Reform Judaism, men and women worship together.



Jews of the

Orthodox
Reform
Conservative

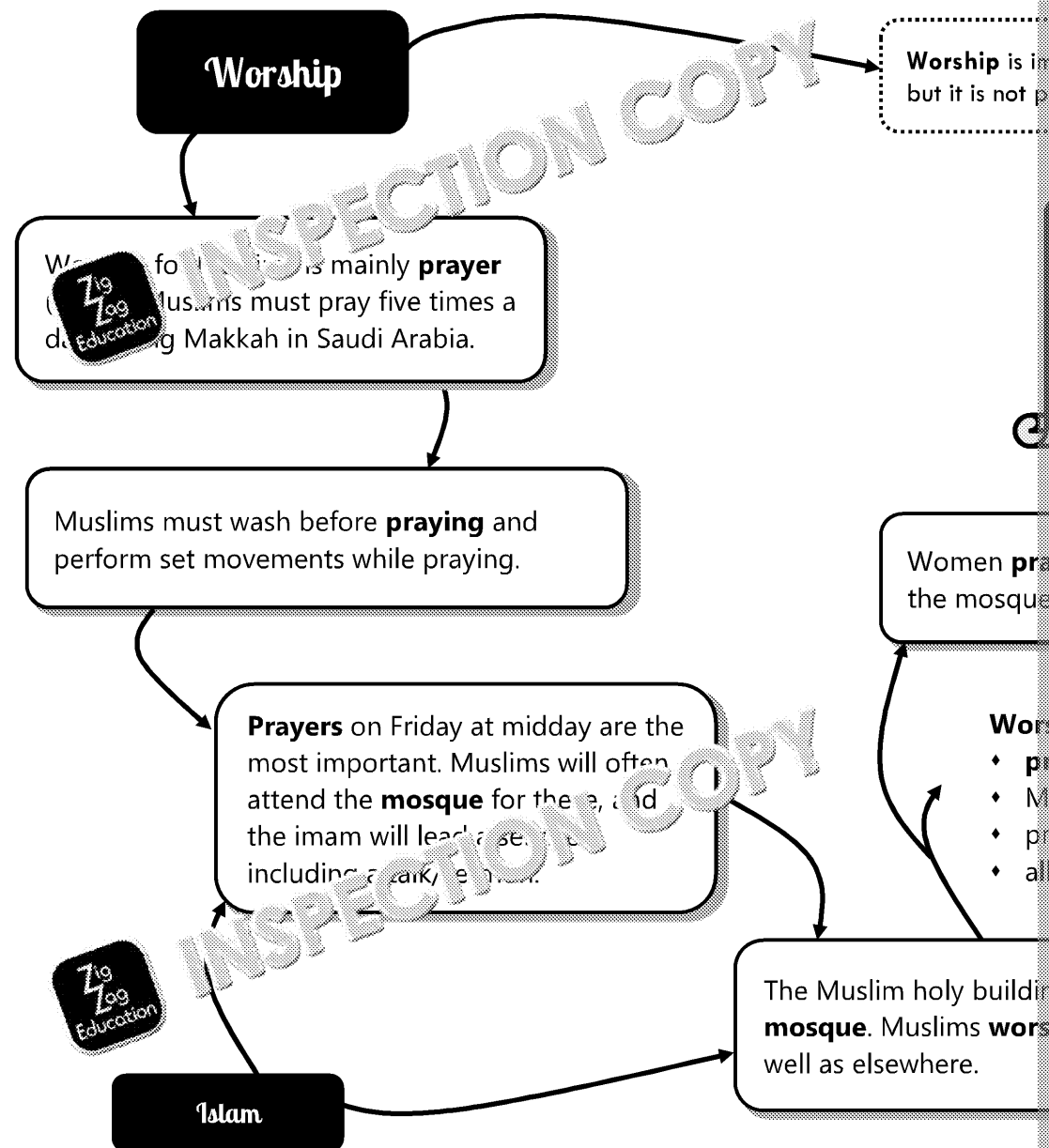
Worship

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Christianity Topic on a Page Activities

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

1. The Trinity

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 - I think Christians can defend belief in one God while believing in the Trinity sense by human standards. it is not possible for God to exist like this, as he is able to do anything.
 - I do not think Christians can defend belief in one God while believing in the Trinity. All the three persons of the Trinity are thought to be divine. If God is one, so not all of the three persons described as the Trinity can be God.
- 5) For example:

'Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.' (or 'The Lord is our God, the LORD alone.' (NRSV)
- 6) For example:
 - Christians believe that God is one being, while still being three persons within the Trinity. The three persons are the Father, Son and Spirit.
 - 'The Lord is our God, the Lord is one.' (Deuteronomy 6:4 NRSV)
 - Christians believe that all the persons of the Trinity are fully God.
 - Christians believe that the second person of the Trinity has existed both in the past and the present. They believe that he was present at the creation of the world, but also that he came to earth as Jesus. The person of Jesus is known as God the Son.
 - 'Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."' (Matthew 16:16)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.
- 7) For example:
 - Jesus comes from the Father, but is one being with him.
 - Jesus' mother was a virgin.
 - Jesus will come to judge those alive and those dead.

2. Creation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.'
- 5) For example:
 - Christians believe that the world was created by God – by the Father, Son and Spirit.
 - Christians believe that the world was created for them to care for and look after.
 - Some Christians believe that the universe was literally created in six days.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 6) For example:
 - Literal pro: You do not have to justify believing parts of the Bible and not others.
 - Literal con: Science disagrees with the biblical accounts of creation.

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- Metaphorical pro: Christians can believe in religion and science without the
- Metaphorical con: Believing that God created the world / life through the Bible God seem less powerful and involved.

(Note: cons for the literal view may be pros for the metaphorical view, and vice versa)

- 7) For example: The doctrine of the Fall is the idea that humans fell from God's grace. This corrupted all of humanity, not just Adam and Eve. This led to original sin being passed on to their children. This means that humans really need saving as they are very separated from God. Furthermore, it means that humans are damaged and that humans will not necessarily choose to live life as God intends. This means that original sin is passed on. The doctrine can be seen to have positive implications: that though humans are damaged, if they repent then God will forgive them, and they will be able to have a full relationship with God.

3. The Incarnation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) 'Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He [God] was revealed in the flesh' (Colossians 2:9)
- 4) For example: Jesus cried when his friend Lazarus died (John 11:35); Jesus was not tired (John 11:12); Jesus slept (e.g. Mark 4:38); Jesus died in agony (Jesus' Passion in any of the Gospels)
- 5) For example:
 - I think it makes sense for God / a God to come down to earth in human form, to live among them, following his teaching, and they will respect him for living among them, and for his sacrifice.
 - I do not think it makes sense for God to come down to earth, as he is so different from humans, and why he is worthy of worship.
- 6) For example:
 - Docetism claims that Jesus was fully divine and just appeared to be human.
 - Adoptionism holds that Jesus was a sinless human who God adopted at some point. Some forms of Adoptionism hold that after Jesus' adoption, he became divine, though others hold that he remained human.
- 7) For example:

Connections	Judgment
A few shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments.
Many shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. Narrow understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting arguments, though conclusions do not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. Good understanding of religion.	Most points are well supported, leading to a conclusion that is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	All points are well supported, leading to a comprehensive evaluation, and a conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

Points and justification for

- Jesus showed divine qualities, such as healing and rising from the dead. He was not subject to hunger and pain.
- Jesus is spoken of as God in the flesh in the New Testament.
- 'In the beginning, the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being' (John 1:1-3).
- 'Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He [God] was revealed in the flesh' (Colossians 2:9).
- Christianity has taught this for years – if Jesus was not God, God would have guided him.

Points and justification against

- Jesus' followers may not have thought he was God incarnate during early Christianity. Evidence of Jesus being thought to be God in the gospels.
- References to Jesus as God's son may not mean that he is divine – they could mean he is a prophet. Many Christians have believed this.
- Other prophets in the Bible have been able to heal and perform miracles, but they were not God.
- Jesus could have been fully God veiled as a human (Docetism) or a human who God adopted (Adoptionism). Accept any relevant point or justification.

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4. Last Days of Jesus' Life

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
'While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood before them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you doubt? He is not here, but has risen.'" (Luke 24:4-5 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
 - Reconciliation between people and God, so that they can have a relationship
 - Forgiveness of sins, so humans do not need to be punished.
 - Overcoming death, so there can be eternal life for humans.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 6) For example: I think the gospels are different because they are compiled from different witnesses. Jesus, and the gospel authors want to emphasise different points. They are aware of different events in Jesus' life, and may have altered their accounts to point to different things.
- 7) For example: I think Jesus' crucifixion should be more important for Christians, as it shows his sacrifice for humanity and atoned for humans' sin. On the other hand, the resurrection can be seen as a sign of God's power and that Jesus conquered death.

5. Salvation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:
 - I think it makes most sense that people can be saved if they come to God through faith. If humans are predestined to be saved, this means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God. If humans are predestined to be saved, this means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God. If humans are predestined to be saved, this means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God.
 - I think that it makes most sense that people are predestined to be saved. If humans are predestined to be saved, this means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God. If humans are predestined to be saved, this means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God.
- 4) For example:
 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16 NRSV)
 - "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
 - Because Christians believe that they have received salvation in Jesus, this influences their view of God. Christians want to know how God is freeing them from the law of sin and death.
 - Because Christians believe that they have been saved through Jesus, they need to know how God is freeing them from the law of sin and death. They therefore interpret the Old Testament differently in light of the New Testament. They therefore interpret the Old Testament differently in light of the New Testament.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)
One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 6) For example: Some Christians believe that it was necessary for Jesus to die for salvation. Jesus is loving and just – he wanted to save humans, but something had to be done to make up for the sin of Adam and Eve. Jesus had to die as only he was able to atone for all sin, and this achieved salvation without him.

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- 7) For example: Predestination is associated with John Calvin, an important Christian Reformation, and is one of the beliefs of Calvinism. Calvin believed that God had chosen who to save (and others to be condemned). In this belief, it is God who guides those he has chosen to save. God is merciful in saving some, and just in condemning others. (Single predestination has chosen who to save but has not actively chosen to condemn others. Double predestination has chosen who to save and who to condemn.)

6. Eschatology

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
'Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will come out...' (John 5:28-29 NRSV)
- 5) For example: The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) teaches that people are given different amounts of talent by God, and those who do not use what God has given them will be punished.
- 6) For example:
 - Some Christians believe that after death the soul will live on immediately – good people to heaven and bad people to hell (some believe that some people will go to purgatory to develop before entering heaven). Afterlife begins immediately after death and the soul is immortal. This is reflected in the Bible, such as Jesus talking about life immediately after death.
 - [to the thief on the cross] "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
 - Some Christians believe that life after death does not begin immediately after death, but begins at the resurrection at the end of time. This is known as resurrection of the body, and it is believed that people will be raised in new bodies, and that everyone will be judged before being sent to heaven or hell.
 - 'Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will come out...' (John 5:28-29 NRSV)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example: I do not think some Christians are justified in interpreting John 14:6 to mean that people can only know God through Jesus the Son, and as Christians believe in a loving God, this seems a better interpretation. I think a loving God would condemn people to hell for not worshipping him and for not knowing him.

7. The Problem of Evil/Suffering and God's Nature

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 - Natural suffering:
 - Suffering caused by forest fires
 - Suffering caused by flooding
 - Man-made suffering:
 - Suffering caused by bullying
 - Suffering caused by war
- 5) For example: I think natural suffering is a bigger problem for Christians – morally speaking, it is hard to work out why a God would allow natural suffering, certainly if he is all-powerful. There seems to be no good reason for children to develop cancer, or floods to destroy lives. It is incomprehensible why a loving and powerful God would allow this. Also, as Christians believe that God created the natural world, he is responsible for creating natural evil.

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- 6) For example:
- The problem of evil and suffering exists partly because it makes little sense suffering. Christians believe that God is benevolent, and being benevolent g not want others to suffer. However, suffering still exists.
 - 'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast
 - The problem of evil and suffering also exists because if God is omnipotent, t evil and suffering; however, there is still evil and suffering. Christians may c and whether he is all-powerful, bearing in mind that he has not stopped suff
 - 'For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, migh 10:17 NRSV)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant *and* to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and a

- 7) For example: I do not think that Christians are justified in believing in a benevolent God. This is because there are not seem to be satisfactory solutions for there being moral suffering in the world that there is if God is loving and all-powerful. Either able to ~~to~~ will to ~~to~~ suffering because a loving God could not want humans to suffer.

8. Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
'This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life... Trouble and your commandments are my delight.' (Psalm 119:50, 143 NRSV)
- 5) For example: I think that free will is a fairly good solution to the problem of evil and people would prefer to have free will, and for there to be a possibility that some were puppets, not able to make real choices. Also, good actions performed through free will are more than good actions which were not free. Therefore, I think it is a good reason for moral suffering. However, it does not provide an explanation for why God would allow suffering.
- 6) For example:
 - I think that if there is a God who allows evil and suffering, then he must do so for a somehow beneficial for humans. I think the strongest solution to the problem of evil is the test – through such tests humans are able to develop good character through faith with and reliance on God if they trust in him when tested.
 - I do not think that evil and suffering are just, so this is not a successful solution to the problem of evil, the weakest. To start with, many bad people do not suffer, while good people suffer for humanity's sin, they no longer need to be punished.
- 7) For example:

Connections	Judgment
A few shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very narrow understanding of religion.</i>	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments
Many shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Narrow understanding of religion.</i>	Some attempt at supporting points, but evaluation, though conclusions do not follow.
Good understanding, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. <i>Good understanding of religion.</i>	<i>Most</i> points are well supported and follow from evaluation, leading to a conclusion that is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently good understanding of religion.</i>	<i>All</i> points are well supported and follow from comprehensive evaluation and conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

Points and justification for

- Free will explains why there is evil and suffering – it is more benevolent for this results in people choosing to hurt others.
- ‘The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.’ (Psalm 103:8 NRSV)
- The existence of evil and suffering is not actually a bad thing – they help Christians grow and not expecting what they do not deserve. Suffering also helps Christians turn to him to help them – the book of Job, and the Psalms support this.
- ‘This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life... Trouble has not taken away my love for you, for I have said, “Your word is my refuge.” But your commandments are my delight.’ (Psalm 119:50, 143 NRSV)
- If God is not thought to be omnipotent, then this solves the problem of evil. God could not create a world without disease or natural disasters.
- It may be that evil and suffering are just – this may be the reason why God allows them.

Points and justification against

- Christians do not know why there is evil and suffering, but they do not need to trust God.
- God cannot be benevolent as Christians claim if he allows the amount of evil in the world. He has not found a way to allow free will and at least limit evil and suffering.
- Christians believe that God created the universe – if he is this powerful, then he can remove evil. If he does not, this is a problem. If he is this powerful, he would not have allowed suffering.
- ‘For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not repayed, who does not receive bribes, who does not take gifts, who does not repay anyone for evil, who does not repay anyone for evil, who does not repay anyone for evil.’ (Psalm 10:17 NRSV)
- There are ways for humans to be good people and have a relationship with God. Evil and suffering cannot be explained as a test – not by a loving God.
- Christians believe that Jesus atoned for their sins, so it cannot be possible that God would allow suffering. Christianity.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

9. Worship

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 - Christians worship God to praise him. They are grateful to him for having sent Jesus to save them.
 - Christians worship God to have a relationship with him; they want to apologise for help with their lives. Worshipping God reassures and encourages them.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)
One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 5) For example: I think worship is important to Christians because it allows them to connect with God. They can ask him for help, praise him, and also ask for his forgiveness. Without worship, Christians would not be able to interact with God and enjoy the reconciliation with him which Jesus achieved. Worship is also important to Christians because they can interact with God as part of a communal singing.
- 6) For example:
 - I think liturgical worship should be more important for Christians as this is a tradition that has been passed down for centuries. Liturgical worship also contains sacraments, which are important Christian practices.
 - I think non-liturgical worship should be more important to Christians as this allows them to worship authentically and personally in whatever way is appropriate to them at the time.
- 7) For example: The *Book of Common Prayer* is a Church of England book of beliefs and prayers. It was written by bishops in the 1500s. It is the official prayer book for the Church of England and other denominations. It contains guidance on which Bible passages should be read and all year round).

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10. Sacraments

- 1) See summary sheet
 - 2) See summary sheet
 - 3) See summary sheet
 - 4) For example:
‘Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ (Luke 22:19 NRSV)
 - 5) For example:
 - Sacraments are important to Christians because they are ways of engaging with God. For example, Baptism welcomes someone into the Church’s family.
 - Sacraments are important to (some) Christians because they believe that through them – for example, Catholics believe they truly experience Jesus’ death for them – bread and wine transubstantiate into his body and blood.
- 1 mark per simple point 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)
One developed point may be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 6) For example: Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe sacraments as they feel that people receive God’s grace through Jesus and do not need sacraments. They want people to rely on what they see as outer symbols, but to focus on God.
 - 7) For example: Catholics believe in transubstantiation because they take Jesus’ words that he is giving his followers his body and blood. St Paul’s letters have also been interpreted of this – that the bread and wine really become Jesus’ body and blood.

11. Prayer

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example: Jesus said God would forgive someone’s sins if they forgave others.
- 5) For example: Many Catholics use a rosary to pray with – a necklace made of beads to concentrate on prayer and to remember to say certain prayers – they can hold different prayers to remember and count them.
- 6) For example:

Connections	Judgment
<i>A few</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported, do not follow from arguments.
<i>Many</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. Narrow understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting conclusion, though conclusions are weak.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints are considered. <i>Partially</i> answers the question. Good understanding of religion.	<i>Most</i> points are well supported, leading to a <i>conclusion</i> which is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints consistently considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	<i>All</i> points are well supported, leading to a <i>comprehensive</i> evaluation and conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

Points and justification for

- Prayer allows Christians to have a relationship with God. Christians would not have a relationship with God without talking and listening to him.
- Jesus specifically taught his disciples to pray in a certain way, meaning that they should follow his example by Jesus.
- ‘Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)
- Prayer allows Christians to do many different things, including praise, thanksgiving, confession, and intercession.

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Points and justification against

- Christians need to read and learn about the Bible as much as they need to pray for a foundation for their faith and understand what Jesus did for them.
- Sacraments are particularly important worship practices which may be more important than other practices. For example, many Christians believe they are able to be saved through Baptism and the Eucharist.
- 'The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned' (Mark 16:16 NRSV)
- Many Christians find it easier to connect with God and understand what he is saying through singing, and may find this more helpful to their relationship with God than communicating with him.
- Christians may feel that they worship God through living good lives, and that is more important than other practices.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example: The prayer 'Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace' is a famous prayer, a set prayer, as it has set words, so people can say this exact prayer. Its purpose is to make them better people who will do God's will, allowing them to focus on becoming better people who express the thoughts of God, who is not always perfect, but who wants to be perfect.

12. Pilgrimage

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 - Christians may go to a particular pilgrimage site to receive healing – some people believe in miraculous physical healings taking place there, and some Christians may also go to a pilgrimage site to spend time with other Christians, to worship God by being with others who also want to worship him. They may feel that their faith is strengthened by the faith from other Christians.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.

- 5) For example: Lourdes, Rome, Glastonbury...
- 6) For example: Some Christians may think that pilgrimage is unimportant because they can go on a physical journey to improve their relationship with God. They may also feel that God is not in any physical location. Some Christians feel that pilgrimage has become too commercial and the commercial aspect of pilgrimage detracts from its spiritual focus – some may feel that they should give money to charity than to spend it on pilgrimage.
- 7) For example: Lourdes in France is a pilgrimage site which is particularly important because a girl called Bernadette claimed to have seen visions of Jesus' mother, the Virgin Mary, in the nineteenth century. Since then, Catholics have come to Lourdes to pay devotion to the Virgin Mary, who appeared to Bernadette, and also in search of healing. The vision of Mary reported by Bernadette, the ground, and the spring of water which came from the ground, is renowned for having healed many people. Many people have claimed to have been healed of various illnesses and other medical conditions. The Catholic Church recognises Lourdes as a place of healing and supports people making pilgrimages there.

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13. Celebrations

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:
[Prophesy, taken to be about Jesus] 'For a child has been born for us, a son given upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father' (Isaiah 9:6 NRSV)
- 4) For example:
'But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being, so all will be made alive in Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
 - As Jesus was raised from the dead, this means that this is possible for others.
 - Jesus' resurrection has freed Christians from their sins.
 - Jesus is the second Adam, sent to remedy original sin.
 - God the Father has given power to Jesus.

1 mark per point, maximum 3

- 6) For example:

Connections	Judgment
<i>A few</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments.
<i>Many</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Narrow</i> understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting evaluation, though conclusions do not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. <i>Good</i> understanding of religion.	<i>Most</i> points are well supported by evaluation, leading to a conclusion which is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	<i>All</i> points are well supported by comprehensive evaluation, leading to a conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

Points and justification for

- Without Christmas, there would be no Christianity – if Jesus had not entered the world and died for Christians.
- Christmas is often emphasised more than other festivals. Christians often spend more time celebrating Christmas than other times of the year.
- Christmas celebrates Jesus coming into the world, and celebrates him revealing God's will. This is really important to Christians.
- [Prophesy, taken to be about Jesus] 'For a child has been born for us, a son given upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father' (Isaiah 9:6 NRSV)

Points and justification against

- Many Christians feel that Easter is the most important time of the year, because it brought humanity salvation.
- 'But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being, so all will be made alive in Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV)
- While many Christians focus on Christmas Day more than on Easter Sunday by present-buying and parties. At Easter, many Christians have space to focus on Jesus' sacrifice.
- Many Christians feel that while festivals are important, all the year is equally important. They believe that Jesus died so that they could live good lives in a close relationship with God.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example: Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter and celebrates when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. Christians remember that those first disciples received the Holy Spirit and so they receive the Holy Spirit in their lives.

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14. Future of the Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 - Fulfilling Jesus' command
 - Compassion
 - Growing Church numbers

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 5) For example: I do not think that it is right for Christians to put monetary resources on things like building churches, as there are so many people worldwide who need practical help to live. I think they should focus on helping people in need. However, as evangelism is important for Christians, I do not think they are wrong for putting evangelism before practical help.
- 6) For example: I think the church is likely to shrink in the more economically developed areas of the world because secularism is becoming very socially acceptable. However, I think the church will grow in poorer and less-developed areas of the world because people feel a need for spiritual support. In the developed world faces more uncertainty or instability, numbers of Christians may grow.
- 7) For example: David Livingstone (1813–1873) was a famous Christian missionary who travelled through Africa and preaching the Gospel. He also supported ending slavery. He believed that he could help end it by evangelising in Africa and providing opportunities for (more) people to work.

15. Local Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:

'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs' (Mark 10:14 NRSV) – churches can help young children come to God.
- 4) For example:
 - Church leaders should help their congregations.
 - Church leaders should be good examples rather than harsh leaders.
 - Being a church leader and helping others will be rewarded.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 5) For example: Different local churches may work together to strengthen bonds between their members and the wider community. They may also work together to carry out joint work which they might not be able to do on their own, such as money/volunteers to help with individually, such as outreach days. Jesus also worked with people for the common good, and so it may be seen as unchristian not to work together.
- 6) For example:
 - One way in which the local church helps the local community is by speaking out against injustice and helping out in the community – such as churches help to clean up the neighbourhood, provide food for the homeless, and make a difference, whether this is on a local or national level.
 - The local church also helps the local community by running activities and offering support for parents with toddlers. These can help people to get out and about, and provide a safe environment for children. Christians believe that they should help others, as Jesus taught that we should love our neighbour as ourselves, and that we should do what we can to help others, as Jesus taught that we should love our neighbour as ourselves, and that we should do what we can to help others.
 - 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs...' (Mark 10:14 NRSV) – churches can help young children come to God.

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

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- 7) For example: I think local churches are effective in reaching local believers, and a and personal support. I think non-believing members of the community may still carried out by local churches, but would not be interested in the worldwide Church

16. Worldwide Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example: I think the most important thing which the worldwide Church does has the influence to help to end inequalities and conflicts and to help people work for a harmonious world.
- 5) For example: If I were a persecuted Christian, I think I would be scared and would to a safer area if I could. I think it is better to try to be reconciled with those who be really hard if you were in that position.
- 6) For example:
 - The worldwide Church is important because it helps with reconciliation. It encourages people to work with each other – for example, warring countries – and it helps to encourage people to be treated with those who have treated them badly. It does this partly because it encourages people to be compassionate and love others, and reconciling people is loving; and also because reconciliation was important – that people should be reconciled with each other. If they were conflicting with others, it would make it hard for them to be full of love.
 - The worldwide Church is also important because it encourages charity and is important because it helps people to live stable and happy lives, and because people do not go to heaven if they did not help others.
 - “And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these members of my family, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:40 NRSV)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example:
 - Pope Francis helped reconcile the USA and Cuba by helping with negotiation
 - Archbishop Desmond Tutu helped to reconcile black and white people in South Africa through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
 - The Corrymeela community has worked to heal tensions in Northern Ireland

17. Afterlife – Judaism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similarities:

 - Some Jews believe in the rewards of heaven and hell, as Christians do.
 - Some Jews believe in the resurrection of the body, as many Christians do.
 - Some Jews believe in the immortality of the soul, as many Christians do.

Differences:

 - There is not a fixed concept of the afterlife in Judaism, as there is little concept of heaven and hell in contrast to there being quite a bit of teaching about heaven and hell in the New Testament.
 - Some Jews believe in reincarnation, and this is generally not believed in within Christianity.
- 5) For example:

‘... the breath [spirit] returns to God who gave it... For God will bring every deed to light, whether good or evil.’ (Ecclesiastes 12:7, 14 NRSV) – this implies that the soul is not immortal after death (as he does not appear to bring judgement on all during life).

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- 6) For example: Reform Jews are likely to reject the coming of a Messiah figure before the dead (whereas Orthodox Jews do look to the coming of a Messiah), and are more concerned with the immortality of the soul than in a bodily resurrection of the dead at the end of time (Orthodox Jews).
- 7) For example:
 - Many Jews believe that good and bad actions impact on whether one will inherit life (not just a matter of religious belief).
 - Jews do not generally believe that people of different religions are barred from heaven.

18. Afterlife – Islam

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similar

- Muslims believe in resurrection of the body, like many Christians.
- Muslims believe in equivalents of heaven and hell, as Christians do.
- Muslims believe in a Day of Judgement at the end of time, as many Christians.
- Muslims believe in the second coming of Jesus before the end of time.

Differences:

- Muslims do not believe in purgatory, unlike some Christians.
- Muslims do not believe in immortality of the soul, unlike some Christians.

- 5) For example:

“...Then will they say: “Who will cause us to return?” Say: “He Who created you from the first heads towards thee, and say, “When will that be?” Say, “Maybe it will be quite soon.”

- 6) For example: Muslims believe that at the end of time all the dead will be resurrected in scorching heat, waiting for judgement. Allah will judge humans and send them to heaven or hell. Shi'a Muslims await the arrival of the Madhi (a figure who will return at the end of time). When this comes this will mean judgement is near.

- 7) For example:
- The Qur'an often describes heaven (jannah) as an amazing place with beautiful gardens, rivers, and palaces.
 - Muslims believe that hell (jahannam) involves physical torment. Some Muslims believe that those who go to hell will eventually be forgiven and allowed to go to heaven.

19. Afterlife – Buddhism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similarity:

- Buddhists, and many Christians, believe that good and bad actions will influ

Difference

- Most Christians believe that if they go to heaven, it is because they have been saved. They do not believe that the Buddha personally 'saves' them.
- Buddhists believe in reincarnation, and Christians generally do not.
- Buddhists believe in nirvana, an 'extinguishing' which is quite different from the Christian concept of heaven, which is believed to involve worshipping God.

- 5) Buddhists believe in a cycle of life and death called **samsara**. They believe that life is full of **suffering (dukkha)** – therefore, they aim to achieve liberation through the process of rebirth. They believe that they need to have better rebirths before achieving the state of liberation, nibbana (nirvana).

- 6) For example: In Theravada Buddhism, Buddhists aim to become Arahants – to see the Buddha and achieve nibbana – after death they will then not be reborn. How become Bodhisattvas – on achieving enlightenment they choose to be reborn to help enlightenment. They aim to help others to achieve enlightenment out of compassion.
- 7) For example:
 - Buddhists believe in six realms that they believe that people are reborn in: hell, ghosts, the animal kingdom, the human realm, the realm of the Titans/demigods
 - Buddhists believe that they will be reborn unless they can break the chain of karma that keep them cycling within samsara, and unless they can break the 10 fetters to achieve enlightenment.

20. Worship – Judaism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similarities:

 - Both Jews and Christians include prayer in their worship.
 - Both Jews and Christians include reading from their holy Scriptures in their worship.

Differences:

 - Whereas Orthodox Jews hold their worship services in Hebrew, all Christians hold their worship in the vernacular (common language).
 - Christians do not wear tallit and tefillin during worship, unlike many Jews.
- 5) For example:

'I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. I will praise you in the presence of all his people' (Psalm 116: 17–18 NRSV) – this describes Jewish sacrifice before the destruction of the Temple.
- 6) For example:
 - A bimah/bema is a platform from which the Torah is read in the synagogue.
 - The Ner Tamid (everlasting light) is a light kept in the synagogue which is not extinguished and represents God's presence.
 - The Aron Kodesh (Holy Ark) is where the scrolls of the Torah are stored in the synagogue. The Jews keep the Torah here to show reverence for it, and to protect it from damage.
- 7) For example:
 - While in Orthodox Judaism men are expected to pray at set times, Orthodox Christians are not having to pray at these set times. However, they are still expected to pray.
 - Many Jews cover their heads during worship. Many men will wear a skull cap (kippah) and women must also cover their heads – many wear a wig.

21. Worship – Islam

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similarities:

 - Both Muslims and Christians include prayer in their worship.
 - Services for both Muslims and Christians on their holy day often include a sermon.

Differences:

 - Christians do not have to pray facing a specific direction, or while making specific movements. Muslims pray towards Makkah and while performing specific cycles of movements (rakats).
 - Christians do not have to pray five times a day, unlike Muslims.

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- 5) For example:
'But celebrate the praises of thy Lord, and be of those who prostrate themselves
- 6) For example:
- Sunni Muslims will pray at five separate times of day, but Shi'a Muslims may so that they only actually pray on three separate occasions.
 - When Sunni Muslims prostrate themselves for prayer, they place their head on the ground. Shi'a Muslims place a block of clay (or another natural material) called a turba to touch their head, because they believe that they should only prostrate themselves on the ground.
- 7) For example:
- Muslims (in Muslim countries) know when they should pray because they hear the call to prayer from the minaret on a mosque.
 - The first words of Islamic prayer (worship) are 'Allahu Akbar' – God is great



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