

Unit 1.1 What do Christians believe God is like? [God]

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes):	Ideas and some content for learning: Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.
Teachers will enable pupils to achieve these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage, so that they can: Make sense of belief: - Identify what a parable is - Tell the story of the Lost Son from the Bible simply and recognise a link with the Christian idea of God as a forgiving Father - Give clear, simple accounts of what the story means to Christians	- Introduce idea that Christians believe in God; the Bible is the key way of finding out what they think God is like. - Tell the story of the Lost Son (Luke 15:1–2, 11–32) using interactive and reflective story-telling techniques. Draw out the forgiveness and love shown by the father. Explain that the story is a 'parable' – a special story Jesus told to help people understand ideas. Parables might be harder to understand than some other stories as they have can have hidden meanings. - Refer back to the key question: What do Christians believe God is like? Do pupils have any ideas yet, about what the story says about what Christians believe about God? Discuss: What might Christians understand about what God is like from this story? How might God be like the father? Look at the stories of the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin in Luke 15 as more examples. - The Parable of the Lost Son teaches that God loves people, even when they go off on their own way. As a class think of ways that Christians might show how glad they are that God loves them so much e.g. sing praising songs, pray saying why they love God, read about God in the Bible, love people, forgive people, care for people, go to church, pray and talk to God, pray and ask God to help, be generous. Explore some examples of these, e.g. by talking to some Christians, matching pictures. - Christians often understand the Parable of Lost Son as teaching them that God is loving and forgiving, and will forgive them too, and so forgiving and being forgiven is also important – they should also practise forgiveness. Talk about whether forgiving people is only important for Christians or for other people too. - Talk about what happens in school if they do something wrong. Share any fresh start/new day practices you might have and the importance of forgiving pupils in school. - Talk about other times when forgiveness is given (through role play, if appropriate); At home? At out of school clubs? How do parents forgive? Link this last question to God as a forgiving father in the Lost Son. Refer to the question 'What do Christians believe God is like?' – how fully can pupils answer this, focusing on understanding of the parable's meaning? - What happens when forgiveness is not given? Get pupils to practise saying 'I'm very sorry' and 'That's ok – I forgive you' to each other around the class. Talk together: Is it good to forgive people? Why/why not? How does it feel if you don't forgive? Why is it sometimes hard to forgive?
Make connections: - Think, talk and ask questions about whether they can learn anything from the story for themselves, exploring different ideas - Give a reason for the ideas they have and the connections they make.	- Listen to 'You Can Hold On' by Fischy Music (there is a free extract on www.fischy.com). Discuss the messages in the song. Write an extra verse to the song or even a class poem focusing on what it is like to forgive or not forgive. - Explain that Christians often talk about there being four main types of prayer: praise, saying 'sorry', saying 'thank you' and asking for something. The story of the Lost Son might lead Christians to think it is very important to say 'praise' and 'saying "sorry" prayers. - Look through the Lost Son and see if they can see what types of prayers the characters might say at different parts of the story and write some examples of characters' prayers. Compare with some Christian prayers from today (e.g. The Lord's Prayer, some examples online from Christian websites, e.g. www.prayerscapes.com/prayers/prayers.html). - Refer back to the core question: What do Christians believe God is like? The story teaches that, like the father in the story, God is loving and forgiving. Talk to a Christian about how this makes a difference to how they live.

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Unit 1.2 Who do Christians say made the world? [Creation]

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes):

Teachers will enable pupils to achieve these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage, so that they can:

Make sense of belief:

- Retell the story of creation from Genesis 1:1–2:3 simply
- Recognise that 'Creation' is the beginning of the 'big story' of the Bible
- Say what the story tells Christians about God, Creation and the world

Understand the impact:

- Give at least one example of what Christians do to say 'thank you' to God for Creation

Make connections:

- Think, talk and ask questions about living in an amazing world
- Give a reason for the ideas they have and the connections they make between the Jewish/Christian Creation story and the world they live in.

Ideas and some content for learning:

Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.

Introduce this unit by spending some time with pupils experiencing nature. Ask pupils how they describe what they see and how they feel.

- Explore the idea that created things have creators: look at some objects and see what pupils think their creators would be like (kind, clever, friendly, etc.). Look at objects in the natural world: suppose these objects have a creator, what do pupils think that this creator would be like?
- Introduce idea that many people (e.g. Jews, Christians and Muslims) believe that there is a Creator of the world, God. Set the scene for the story in Genesis 1: a story that tells Christians and Jews about God. Keep coming back to the idea that it tells believers about what the Creator is like as you tell the story in creative and exploratory ways (e.g. choose suitable music and dance moves for each day; use some poems, such as Steve Turner's *In the beginning*; do drawings and paintings for each day, then sequence and retell the story to each other, etc.). Answer the key question: Who do Christians say made the world?
- Talk about: if Christians believe God made the world, what should they do? Perhaps thank God. Look at some 'thank you' prayers Christians might say about the world; or some praise prayers about the Creator.
- Make links with grace before meals: many Christians thank God every time they eat. Find out some examples of these prayers and talk about why people say them. What difference does it make to how they live?
- Make links with Harvest, where Christians traditionally thank God for Creation: connect school harvest celebrations, church festivals and the idea of giving and sharing to those in need. It is not only Christians who are thankful for food, shelter, sunlight, water, crops, life. Talk about what things pupils are grateful for and who they could thank, e.g. parents, friends, shop keepers, dinner supervisors, delivery drivers, farmers, etc. Ask pupils to write some 'thank you' comments and to give them to the appropriate people.
- Ask pupils what questions they would ask about living in an amazing world. Recall the story from Genesis 1. If there was a Creator and world-maker they could ask, what questions would they ask the Creator? Many people do not believe that there is a creator, so talk about whether there are similar or different questions about our amazing Universe if there is no creator.

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Unit 1.5 Why does Easter matter to Christians? [Salvation]

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Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes):

Teachers will enable pupils to achieve these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage, so that they can:

Make sense of belief:

- Recognise that Incarnation and Salvation are part of a 'big story' of the Bible
- Tell stories of Holy Week and Easter from the Bible and recognise a link with the idea of Salvation (Jesus rescuing people)

Understand the impact:

- Give at least three examples of how Christians show their beliefs about Jesus' death and resurrection in church worship at Easter

Make connections:

- Think, talk and ask questions about whether the story of Easter only has something to say to Christians, or if it has anything to say to pupils about sadness, hope or heaven, exploring different ideas and giving a good reason for their ideas.

Ideas and some content for learning:

Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.

- If you are doing this unit in the Spring Term (although this is not compulsory timing), you might introduce it by looking around for examples of the new life that comes in the spring. The story for Christians leads to the idea of new life.
- Introduce the story of Holy Week. (Note that pupils should understand that this story takes place about 33 years after the events of the Nativity, even though pupils have only celebrated Christmas a few weeks ago.)
- Set up an Easter labyrinth or outdoor trail for pupils, including 1) The entry into Jerusalem e.g. John 12:12–15; 2) Jesus' betrayal and arrest at the Mount of Olives e.g. Luke 22:47–53; 3) Jesus dies on the cross e.g. Luke 23:26–56; 4) The empty tomb e.g. Luke 24:1–12; 5) Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the disciples: John 20:11–23. At each stop on the labyrinth, pupils should hear part of the story and have a chance to discuss and reflect on it, expressing their thoughts, feelings and questions. Make the labyrinth as sensory as possible: for example, have palm leaves to feel (and wave) for the entry into Jerusalem, and vinegar to smell for the crucifixion. Use a variety of active strategies to get pupils to become familiar with the story (e.g. simple role play, freeze-framing, simple diary entries for different characters, story-boarding, putting images in chronological order, retelling events to each other).
- Talk about the emotions of Jesus' followers during the week. Match the emotions to different characters at different times (e.g. being angry, sad, excited, worried, scared, surprised, happy, puzzled, overjoyed, etc.) Note the big change from Friday (sad) to Sunday (puzzled and overjoyed).
- Connect the idea of eggs, new life and the belief in Jesus' resurrection. Look at decorated Easter eggs – make some model eggs and decorate with scenes from Easter Sunday. Talk about the Christian belief that Jesus rises from death (resurrection) on the Sunday after his death, and how this shows Christians that Jesus has opened up a way for them to have a new life after they die – a life with God in heaven. This is part of the idea of 'salvation' – for Christians, Jesus offers to save them from death. Talk about why this is important for Christians – talk about the hope Christians have that heaven is a place without pain or suffering – a place of joy.
- Find out about how churches celebrate different parts of Holy Week, e.g. Palm Sunday crosses; Good Friday (church services, hot cross buns, Stations of the Cross); Easter Sunday (joyful songs, decorating crosses in church, giving and eating eggs). Connect these practices with the events in the story. Make up some simple actions that help them to remember the story – and that could be used in Christian celebrations.
- Ask pupils why people find it helpful to believe that there is life in heaven after death. Make a link with the idea that, for Christians, Jesus brings good news (see Unit 1.4). Give pupils time to reflect on the way the story changes from sadness to happiness, or from darkness to light. Give them a chance to paint some dark marks on a page, perhaps listening to some quiet music, then to paint some bright colours, with joyous music accompanying. Ask them to talk about what it might feel like when something good happens after something sad.

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Unit 1.9 How should we care for others and the world and why does it matter?

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes):

Teachers will enable pupils to achieve these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage, so that they can:

Make sense of belief:

- Identify a story or text that says something about each person being unique and valuable
- Give an example of a key belief some people find in one of these stories (e.g. that God loves all people)
- Give a clear, simple account of what Genesis 1 tells Christians and Jews about the natural world

Understand the impact:

- Give an example of how people show that they care for others (e.g. by giving to charity), making a link to one of the stories
- Give examples of how Christians and Jews can show care for the natural earth
- Say why Christians and Jews might look after the natural world

Make connections:

- Think, talk and ask questions about what difference believing in God makes to how people treat each other and the natural world
- Give good reasons why everyone (religious and non-religious) should care for others and look after the natural world.

Ideas and some content for learning:

Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.

Throughout this unit, make connections with pupils' prior learning from earlier in the year: what have they learnt about God and creation already, and how does this affect how people behave?

- Introduce the idea that each person is unique and important; use teachings to explain why Christians and Jews believe that God values everyone, such as for Christians: Matthew 6:26; Jesus blesses the children (Matthew 19, Mark 10, Luke 18); for Jews and Christians: teachings such as Psalm 8 (David praises God's creation and how each person is special in it). Use the Golden Rule to illustrate a non-religious view of the value of all people.
- Talk about the benefits and responsibilities of friendship and the ways in which people care for others. Talk about characters in books exploring friendship, such as Winnie the Pooh and Piglet or the Rainbow Fish. Explore stories from the Christian Bible about friendship and care for others and how these show ideas of good and bad, right and wrong, e.g. Jesus' special friends (Luke 5:1–11), four friends take the paralysed man to Jesus (Luke 5:17–26), 'The Good Samaritan' (Luke 10: 25–37); Jewish story of Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1–4).
- Ask pupils to describe their friend's special skills, leading to the idea that we all have special skills we can use to benefit others.
- Learn that some religions believe that serving others and supporting the poor are important parts of being a religious believer e.g. *zakah* (almsgiving) in Islam; *tzedaka* (charity) in Judaism.
- Read stories about how some people or groups have been inspired to care for people because of their religious or ethical beliefs e.g. Mother Teresa, Doctor Barnardo, Sister Frances Dominica, the Catholic aid agency CAFOD, the Jewish charity Tzedek; non-religious charities e.g. WaterAid and Oxfam. Also find out about religious and non-religious people known in the local area.
- Having studied the teachings of one religion on caring, work together as a group to create an event e.g. a 'Thank you' tea party for some school helpers – make cakes and thank-you cards, write invitations and provide cake and drink, or organise a small fundraising event and donate the money to a local charity.
- Look carefully at some texts from different religious scriptures about the 'Golden Rule' and see if the pupils can suggest times when it has been followed and times when it has not been followed. Talk about how the Golden Rule can make life better for everyone. Make cartoons to show their ideas.
- Recall earlier teaching about Genesis 1: retell the story, remind each other what it tells Jewish and Christian believers about God and creation (e.g. that God is great, creative, and concerned with creation; that creation is important, that humans are important within it). Talk about ways in which Jews and Christians might treat the world, making connections with the Genesis account (e.g. humans are important but have a role as God's representatives on God's creation; Genesis 2:15 says they are to care for it, as a gardener tends a garden). Investigate ways that people can look after the world and think of good reasons they think this is important for everyone, not just religious believers. Make links with the Jewish idea of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and Tu B'Shevat (new year for trees).

Unit: 1.10 What does it mean to belong to a faith community?

The principal aim of religious education is to explore what people believe and what difference this makes to how they live, so that pupils can gain the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to handle questions raised by religion and belief, reflecting on their own ideas and ways of living.

Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes):

Teachers will enable pupils to achieve these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage, so that they can:

Make sense of beliefs:

- Recognise that loving others is important in lots of communities
- Say simply what Jesus and one other religious leader taught about loving other people

Understand the impact:

- Give an account of what happens at a traditional Christian and Jewish or Muslim welcome ceremony, and suggest what the actions and symbols mean
- Identify at least two ways people show they love each other and belong to each other when they get married (Christian and/or Jewish and non-religious)

Make connections:

- Give examples of ways in which people express their identity and belonging within faith communities and other communities, responding sensitively to differences
- Talk about what they think is good about being in a community, for people in faith communities and for themselves, giving a good reason for their ideas.

Ideas and some content for learning:

Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own to enable pupils to achieve the outcomes.

- Talk about stories of people who belong to groups. Find out about groups to which pupils belong, including their families and school, what they enjoy about them and why they are important to them.
- Find out about some symbols of 'belonging' used in Christianity and at least one other religion, and what they mean (**Christians**: e.g. baptismal candles, christening clothes, crosses as badges or necklaces, fish/*ichthus* badges, 'What Would Jesus Do' ('WWJD') bracelets, a rosary, a Bible; **Muslims**: e.g. an example of calligraphy, a picture of the Ka'aba, a *taqiyah* (prayer cap); **Jews**: e.g. a *mezuzah*, a *menorah*, a Kiddush cup, *challah* bread, a *kippah*), symbols of belonging in pupils' own lives and experience.
- Explore the idea that everyone is valuable. Tell the story of the Lost Sheep and/or the Lost Coin (Luke 15) to show how, for Christians, all people are important to God. Connect to teachings about how people should love each other too: e.g. Jesus told his friends that they should love one another (John 13:34–35), and love everybody (Mark 12:30–31); Jewish teaching: note that Jesus is quoting the older Jewish command to love neighbours (Leviticus 19:18); Muslim teaching: 'None of you is a good Muslim until you love for your brother and sister what you love for yourself.'
- Introduce Christian infant baptism and dedication, finding out what the actions and symbols mean.
- Compare this with a welcoming ceremony from another religion e.g. Judaism: naming ceremony for girls – *brit bat* or *zeved habat*; Islam: *Aqiqah*; some atheists might have a Humanist naming ceremony.
- Find out how people can show they love someone and that they belong with another person, for example, through the promises made in a wedding ceremony, through symbols (e.g. rings, gifts; standing under the *chuppah* in Jewish weddings). Listen to some music used at Christian weddings. Find out about what the words mean in promises, hymns and prayers at a wedding.
- Compare the promises made in a Christian wedding with the Jewish *ketubah* (wedding contract).
- Compare some of these promises with those made in non-religious wedding ceremonies. Identify some similarities and differences between ceremonies.
- Talk to some Christians, and members of another religion, about what is good about being in a community, and what kinds of things they do when they meet in groups for worship and community activities.
- Explore the idea that different people belong to different religions, and that some people are not part of religious communities, but that most people are in communities of one sort or another.
- Find out about times when people from different religions and none work together, e.g. in charity work or to remember special events. Examples might include Christian Aid and Islamic Relief, or the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Day on 11 November.

Year 1		
Key question	Learning outcomes	Assessment
Who is a Sikh and how do they live?	Making sense of belief: recognise that it is one of the major world religions and that the Khanda is an important symbol discover how Sikhism started thanks to teachings of Guru Nanak. find out about the '5 Ks and their importance Children will identify the core beliefs of: meditation, hard work, honesty and sharing Understand the impact: Connect Sikhs meditating and God Consider what would happen if key workers in the community decided not to work hard Understand the importance of honesty as core belief Identify how Sikh community kitchens exemplify the core belief of sharing Make connections: How quite reflection is important to Sikhs and how quite reflection is used by others including non-religious views Identify how the core beliefs of Sikhs are valuable to Christian and non-religious views e.g. food banks	Recognise the Khanda and Retell the story of Gurk Nanak Name (or match) each of the 5k's and their importance Name the core beliefs of Sikhism Explain what it means to be equal Explain what mediation is and why quite reflection can be important for everyone Explain why the Sikh's have a community kitchen and how this reflects the core beliefs
Suggested sequence 1. The Khanda and introduction to Sikhism, including the 5K's 2. Guru Nanak and his teachings https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/religious-studies-ks2-ten-gurus/zvkvrj6 3. Meditation and it's importance 4. Hard work and honesty 5. The belief that people should share		