CBS Knowledge Organiser

Religion and Worldviews

Christianity

Overview

Christianity is one of the world's major religions. It is the **world's largest religion**, with about 2.4 billion followers.

Christians (like Jews and Muslims) believe in one **God,** who created the world and all that is in it.

Christians believe in the teachings of **Jesus Christ**, who was a middle-eastern preacher and healer who lived around 2,000 years ago.

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was sent down to earth to save people, by taking their punishment and dying on the cross.

The holy book in Christianity is called **the Bible**. **A church** is a building designed for Christian worship.

An artist's image of Jesus Christ giving the 'sermon on the mount.'



Christian Beliefs



God's Creation

-Christians believe that God created the Earth and everything in it in 6 days, resting on the 7th.

-The story of creation tells Christians that at first everything was dark, until God intervened and created matter.

-Details about this are found in the Bible in Genesis 1 and 2.

The Holy Trinity

-Christians believe that God can be seen in three ways, known as the Holy Trinity:

-The Father – Creator of the world;
-The Son – Who came to Earth as Jesus;
-The Holy Spirit – God's power within Christians.

The Ten Commandments



-In the Bible, ten 'commandments' are shared, which Christians should aim to live their lives by:

1.You shall have no other Gods but me. 2. You shall not make for yourself any idol. 3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. 4. You shall remember and keep the Sabbath day holy. 5. Respect your father and mother. 6. You must not commit murder. 7. You must not commit adultery. 8. You must not steal. 9.You must not give false evidence against your neighbour. 10. You must not be envious of your neighbour's goods.

The Life of Jesus Christ



- Christians believe that Jesus was the son of God. He was born to ordinary parents, Mary and Joseph, in Bethlehem. Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on 25th December – Christmas Day.

-Jesus travelled around, teaching people about God and helping the sick. He chose 12 men to travel with him. They were his special companions and are known as the disciples.

-Jesus was sentenced to death for calling himself the son of God. He had a final meal with his disciples (known as 'The Last Supper') before being crucified. He is said to have died for the sins of man.

Key Information and Vocabulary

Where do Christians worship God?	 	-Christians can pray in any place, but the most common location is in a purpose-built building called a church. Churches can be very different – old, new, plain or highly decorated. Often, the floor plans of churches are shaped in a cross. -Church services often include hymns, prayers, and readings from the Bible. -Common church features include altar tables, lecturns, pulpits, fonts and stained glass windows.
What is the Bible?		The Bible is the holy book of Christians. It contains the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament is similar to the Jewish Bible and was written before Jesus' birth. The New Testament contains stories about Jesus, written by those who knew him.
How do Christians believe that people should live their lives?		-Christians believe that people should be compassionate to one another, and show respect to God, themselves and one another. -Christians believe that praying to God helps them to say sorry for the things that they have done wrong, and thank them for the blessings given to them. -Christians believe that God wants them to carry on the good work that Jesus did in the world.
How many different types of Christians are there?		-There are many different denominations (types) of Christians. All Christians were once Catholics, but other groups branched off many years ago. -The biggest Christian denomination is still Catholicism. To Catholics, the Pope is Christ's representative on earth. Other major groups include Protestants (including Anglican/ Church of England faiths) and Orthodox.

Key Vocabulary

God

Jesus

Bible

Cross/ Crucifix

Commandments

Holy Trinity

Catholic

Protestant

Orthodox

Disciples

Saint

Church

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Timeline

Beginning of time: God creates the world and everything in it.	Around 0 CE: Jesus is born in Bethlehem.	c.28CE: Jesus begins healing and preaching. He chooses 12 disciples.	c.30CE: Jesus feeds 5,000 with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish!	c.33CE: Jesus holds the Last Supper. He is double-crossed by Judas.	c.33CE: Jesus is executed on the cross and then resurrects days later.	c.40CE: Church of Jerusalem – first Christian church – is founded.	c.1057CE: Orthodox Church breaks from Catholicism.	c.1534CE: Henry VIII forms the Church of England.

Top 10 Facts

1. Christians believe that God is everywhere, and sees and knows everything.
2. About 1/3 of the world's population are Christian.
3. The word Christ comes from the Greek word meaning Messiah – God's chosen one.
4. Although Christmas is celebrated on December 25th, no one knows exactly what date Jesus was born on.
5. Sunday is the holiest day in Christianity – many people meet to worship on Sunday.
6. There is very little written about Jesus before the age of about 30, when he began preaching
7. Jesus knew that he was going to be betrayed, and that he would die. He tried to warn his disciples of this at the Last Supper.
8. Jesus was buried in a tomb, but the tomb was found later. He then appeared to the disciples.
9. Jesus eventually went back up to heaven to be with God – this is called the ascension.
10. The cross is the symbol of Christianity – a reminder that Jesus was crucified.

Important Symbols



The Cross - a symbol of Jesus' death and resurrection. It reminds Christians of God's love and forgiveness.



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Fish (Ichthys) - an early Christian symbol used to show faith in Jesus. It reminds Christians that Jesus called his followers to be "fishers of people".



Dove – a symbol of the Holy Spirit, peace and God's presence. It is often linked to the baptism of Jesus.