

Understanding Christianity



Key Terms

The Trinity - The 3 persons of God: The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit.

Disciple – A follower of Jesus.

Bible – The Holy book for Christians.

Proof – The act of finding or testing the truth of something.

Evidence – Facts or information which show that something exists or is true

Genre – A specific type of writing (letters, Laws, History, Poetry).

The Chalice – A large cup used in Communion.

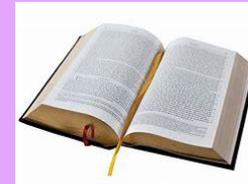
Sacrament – A religious ceremony.

Altar – A table at the front where communion takes place.

Eucharist – The act of taking communion.

What is the Bible?

- The bible is a sacred text or scriptures. It is a library containing, laws, letters, history, poem/song, wise sayings and prophecy.
- The Christian bible contains the old and new testament
- It contains 66 books written by over 40 authors over 1500years.
- The bible contains something for all moods and many cultures, it is has been translated into many different languages for all to understand.
- The bible is used in church services.



Who is Jesus?

Christians believe he is 1.Son man/Son of God
2.Light of the world
3. The way the truth and the life.

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
- He was founder of the Christian church.
- Miracle worker.
- Person in history.
- He was a Jew.
- He was crucified.
- He is a part of the Trinity.



There is evidence of Jesus existing through written stories and eye witness accounts.

Communion/Eucharist

- The act of taking bread and wine. This is a type of sacrament.
- Re-enactment of 'the last supper' where Jesus broke bread and drank wine with his disciples, he also washed others' feet.
- During a communion service, people go up to the altar, they take the cup of wine and drink (symbolising Jesus' blood), and they eat a piece of bread (symbolising Jesus' body).
- Why do Christians do communion?
Brings them closer/connects them to God and Jesus. It is an act of worship.



What is a Disciple?

A disciple is a follower of Jesus.

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Jesus had 12 disciples their names were, Andrew, Bartholomew, James the elder, James the younger, John, Judas, Jude, Matthew, Peter, Phillip, Simon and Thomas.



Understanding Christianity 2

Key Terms

Philosophy – A theory or attitude that acts as a guiding principle for behaviour.

Secular – Not having a connection with religion.

Theology – The study of God and religion.

Scripture – Sacred writings of Christianity that are found in the Bible.

Crucifixion – A form of execution where someone is nailed to a cross.

Imago Dei (Image of God) The idea that we are all made in the likeness of God.

The Fall – When Adam and Eve committed the first sin.

Day of atonement – A holy day to atone and reconcile with God.

Christian beliefs -A set of rules and morals that Christians follow.



Trinity

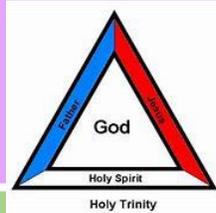
There is exactly one God.
There are three really distinct persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Each of the persons is God.

The Trinity is not three individuals but together they make up God.

Why is the Trinity important?

The doctrine of the Trinity has other functions:

- It brings humanity face to face with the mystery of God.
- It helps humanity recognise the God they meet in the Bible, in history and in their own lives.
- It helps humanity worship God.
- It provides a model for human relationships, both as individuals and in community.



Sin

- Sin = Act of rebellion or disobedience against the known will of God in Judaism, Christianity or Islam.

Christians believe that when we sin, we must repent. This is where you say sorry to God for the bad things you have done.

Christians believe that everyone has sinned.



The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Sacrifice and Atonement

Sacrifice = Giving up (something valued) for the sake of other considerations.

Atonement = The action of making amends for a wrong or injury.

- As people found they were unable to repair the relationship with God during 'The Fall' they turned to animal sacrifice to deal with the problem of sin.
- For Christians, the damage done by sin and the Fall was finally repaired by the death and resurrection of Jesus. His death was the ultimate sacrifice and He is called the 'Lamb of God'.