

<p><b><u>What is the Bible?</u></b> The Bible is the holy book of Christianity. It is made up of two parts, firstly the Old Testament and secondly the New Testament. The Old and New Testaments are collections of books that have been put together. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.</p> <p><b><u>Why the Bible is important to Christians?</u></b> Many Christians believe the Bible is the direct word of God. Christians go to the Bible for guidance and help with everyday life. The Bible teaches Christians the importance of Jesus' life and death. The Bible gives rules and advice on how to live in a Christian way. The Bible includes Christian history which helps Christians understand their religion.</p>	<p><b><u>The Trinity</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christians believe God is three persons in one. This idea is called the <b>Trinity</b>.</li> <li>- Each person of the Trinity is fully God but the three persons of the Trinity are not the same.</li> <li>- The <b>Father</b> is the creator of all life</li> <li>- The <b>Son</b> is Jesus Christ who is both fully human and fully God</li> <li>- The <b>Holy Spirit</b> is the unseen power of God at work in the world, especially answering prayers</li> </ul> <p><i>"We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit" – The Nicene Creed</i></p>	<p><b><u>Jesus' Parables and miracles</u></b> Jesus' teachings and parables can be found in the New Testament of the Bible in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. A parable is a simple story used to tell a moral, spiritual or religious lesson. Examples of Jesus parables are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Good Samaritan</li> <li>- The Sheep and the Goat</li> </ul> <p>Some of the miracles were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The calming of the storm</li> <li>- Healing the paralysed man</li> <li>- Raising of Lazarus</li> </ul> <p>More stories about Jesus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Matthew the Tax Collector</li> <li>- Jesus and the adulteress</li> </ul> <p><b><u>What does this parable teach Christians?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This parable teaches Christians to be loving and kind to others, even if they are strangers. This is because the Samaritan was kind to the Jewish man even though they were strangers. They wouldn't usually have gotten on with each other because of the rivalry between Jews and Samaritans.</li> <li>• Christians today could put this into practice today by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteering to help at a homeless shelter.</li> <li>Helping an older person carry their shopping.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Why are Jesus' miracles important to Christians?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Christians Miracles are a sign that God exists because the miraculous event does not seem to be explainable by scientific law.</li> <li>• For Christians Miracles are a sign of what God is like e.g. all-powerful, caring, all-loving and all-knowing.</li> <li>• It gives Christians reassurance that God will be there to help them when they need it.</li> <li>• It teaches Christians how they should act in difficult situations e.g. to help others that are ill.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Palm Sunday</u></b> Jesus came back to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration. He came on a donkey which was a prophecy that came true.</p> <p><b><u>Last Supper</u></b> Jesus knew Judas had betrayed him and told his disciples to have the bread and the wine in remembrance of him.</p> <p><b><u>Crucifixion</u></b> Jesus travelled to Jerusalem to preach and he was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate. Jesus was then nailed to a <b>cross</b> where he died. In his last moments Jesus was able to forgive those who were killing him showing Christians how important <b>forgiveness</b> is. This event is remembered on Good Friday</p>	<p><b><u>Resurrection</u></b> After Jesus was dead and buried Christians believe he <b>rose from the dead</b> – this is the <b>resurrection</b>. Early on the Sunday three women visited his tomb expecting to find his body but it was not there. After his resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples and told them to spread the word of him. This event is celebrated on <b>Easter Sunday</b>.</p> <p><b><u>Ascension</u></b> Forty days after he rose from the dead Jesus <b>ascended</b> (went up) into heaven</p>	<p><b><u>Famous Christians</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria Gomez</li> <li>• Oscar Romero</li> <li>• Desmond Tutu</li> <li>• Justice to Jesus</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Nature of God</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christians believe in <b>one God</b> who is the creator and the sustainer of all that exists</li> <li>- God is <b>omnipotent</b> which means they are almighty and have unlimited power</li> <li>- God is <b>benevolent</b> which means they are all-loving and all-good</li> <li>- God is <b>just</b> which means they are a perfect and fair judge</li> <li>- <b>The Problem of Suffering</b> asks: if God is all these things why do they allow bad things to happen to good and innocent people?</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Jesus</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus lived in Israel.</li> <li>• They believe that Jesus was the Son of God</li> <li>• Jesus and his followers were Jewish. There were four types of Jew; Zealots, Pharisees, Essenes, Sadducees.</li> <li>• The religion of Christianity did not develop until after the death of Jesus.</li> <li>• Christians believe that Jesus is God incarnate (in human flesh).</li> <li>• Christians believe that Jesus' teachings should be followed when making moral decisions – deciding right from wrong.</li> </ul>				
	<p><b><u>Different denominations:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Church of England Protestant</li> <li>• Catholic</li> <li>• Jehovah's Witness</li> <li>• Quaker</li> <li>• Baptist etc...</li> </ul>				

