

RS GCSE Revision: Christianity



Key Facts:

Christianity is based on the belief that a god, which exists outside space and time, created the universe and everything in it. We are like this god in some ways, we have an eternal (everlasting) soul and the way we live determines whether our soul has a good afterlife or not.

Many Christians believe that sin and evil exist due to human actions, as a result of having free will.

There are different Christian beliefs about God's purpose for Jesus' execution.

Holy Communion/Mass/ Divine Liturgy is a re-enactment of Jesus' actions of giving bread and wine to his followers at the Last Supper before his execution. There are different Christian beliefs about the bread and wine; for example, some Christians believe the bread and wine literally turn into Jesus' flesh and blood.

Baptism is when adults commit to raising a child as a Christian or when older people commit to living as a Christian. Water is used to symbolize the washing away of sins and the new life that Christians believe Jesus brings.

Resources:

truetube.co.uk

<http://padlet.com/jpomfret/re> (password 'wearde')

Key Terminology:

forgiveness	To stop blaming or being angry with someone for something that person has done, or not punish them for something	pilgrims	People who go on a pilgrimage, a journey of religious and/or spiritual significance
transformation	To change completely	salvation	Being saved from sin and able to have eternal life
atonement	The belief that Jesus' death on the cross healed the rift between humans and God	symbolism	When something represents something else, having an extra meaning beyond what it is
incarnation	"To become flesh", when Jesus was born	sacrament	A Christian ritual bringing God's grace, e.g. a wedding
omnibenevolent	All-loving	omnipotent	All-powerful

Area	Content
Jesus' death and the Eucharist	Why do many Christians take part in the Eucharist (Holy Communion/Mass/Divine Liturgy)? What ideas and beliefs come from Jesus' death? How is Jesus death interpreted?
Baptism	What happens at an infant baptism? What happens at an adult or believer's baptism? What are the symbols in the ceremony and the church building; how do they link to ideas of forgiveness and eternal life.



Salvation and the afterlife	What do Christians believe happens after our physical life is over? What are some of the different Christian ideas about an afterlife, what the Bible says, and what are the links to key Christian beliefs?
Pilgrimage	Why do many Christians visit holy places? What do they get out of it? Where might they go?
Worship	What is worship? How does it happen? Why do different Christian groups tend to do different things for worship?

Vocabulary
eternal
liturgy
belief
believe
reward
sin
denomination
right
wrong
agape
worshipping
purgatory
Eucharist
tradition
allowed
body
blood
flesh

Key people/ groups	
The Baptist Church	This church teaches that people should get baptised when they are old enough to decide that they want to become a Christian.
The Roman Catholic Church	This church teaches that, during Mass (Eucharist), bread and wine actually become Jesus' flesh and blood.
The Anglican Church	This church teaches that, during Holy Communion (Eucharist), Jesus is spiritually present.
Saint Augustine	A Christian philosopher who said that we are all born sinners due to Adam and Eve's original sin.
John Hick	A Christian philosopher who said that by overcoming evil we can become like God.

