

## What is a church?

Defined as an assembly; or a gathering of Christian people.



## Food Banks

Help to provide food for those who have financial (money) problems and cannot afford food.

The Trussell Trust - supports a network of food banks:

- provides emergency food to people.
- provide additional support to tackle the cause of poverty.
- Build people's resilience.



## Jesus's teaching's



Agape - 'love' (selfless) for everyone

Love thy neighbour - The Good Samaritan - we should help anyone in need.

Sheep & Goats - God will judge how well people have been kind & loving.



## Street Pastors

Groups of men & women who patrol their local areas on Friday and Saturday nights (10pm - 4am) to care for people out:

- Give out flip flops
- Hot drinks to homeless people
- First aid where needed
- Help as an ice breaker
- Getting people in taxis or on buses home



LOCAL CHURCH

## Mission and Evangelism

Mission literally means 'a sending' and Evangelism is the term used for spreading the word. Christians believing it is their mission to spread the word of Jesus.

### Great Commission

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son & Holy Spirit". Jesus' command to his disciples.

Christians have a responsibility to tell others of their faith. (Jehovah Witness' for example)

### Discipleship

Christian mission involves training new converts in the way of following Jesus.

### Missionary Work

Involves evangelism and humanitarian work amongst the poor.

## Church Growth

The UK - declining

Alpha courses - programs to teach people about Christianity



Birmingham 2020 Church Planting - building new churches in different places

increasing Africa

Bonke believed God called him to evangelise Africa. He had dreams that God said 'Africa will be saved'.

Bonke supported by evangelist Daniel Kolenda





## Pilgrimage

A pilgrimage is a journey made for religious reasons, alone or with others to a sacred place.

Reasons for going:

- Grow closer to God and strengthen faith.
- Seek a cure for an illness.
- Gain a better understanding of their faith.

## Lourdes

France

- Place where St Bernadette had visions of the Virgin Mary.
- Spring built there believe to have healing powers.



- Commercialised, very touristy; busy.
- People go to be healed.

## Iona

Scotland



- Follow the path of Columba & his Christian missionaries.
- Visit different sites of historical & spiritual significance.
- Veil between heaven & hell-thinnest.
- Peaceful / Reflective.
- Physically demanding.

## Celebrations

Festivals have an important role helping Christians remember the major events in their religion.

### Christmas

- Midnight Mass 
  - Christingle 
  - Nativity plays 
  - Exchanging of presents 
  - Christmas dinner
  - Give to charity
- Remembers the birth of Jesus - the founder of Christianity.

### Easter

Easter follows Holy Week (remembering the suffering of Jesus)

- Reasons for it's importance:
- Jesus' resurrection proved Jesus was the Son of God.
  - Jesus' predictions came true - all other teachings must be.
  - No need fear death - eternal life again possible.
  - Message of Easter - light over darkness.



Palm Sunday



Mauudy Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

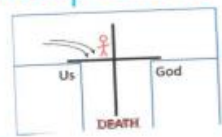


### Reconciliation

To get over your difficulties and have your relationship restored. Main mission of the worldwide Church - to state Jesus came to restore the relationship between God & Humans.

Reconciled with God through confession (R.Catholic Church)

Reconciliation needed between humans.  
Reconciliation needed within Christianity.



#### The Community of the Cross of Nails



Coventry Cathedral working with many people/groups to bring about peace & harmony.

Heal wounds of history  
Celebrate diversity  
Build a culture of peace.

Knife Angel



WORLDWIDE CHURCH

### Persecution

Hostility (anger & bitterness) and ill-treatment especially because of race, or political or religious beliefs.

St Paul - 'everyone who wants to live a godly life in Jesus will be persecuted.'

Jesus taught people love their enemies.

If one Christian suffers everyone does - encourage support.

Protest for changes to laws that persecute people.

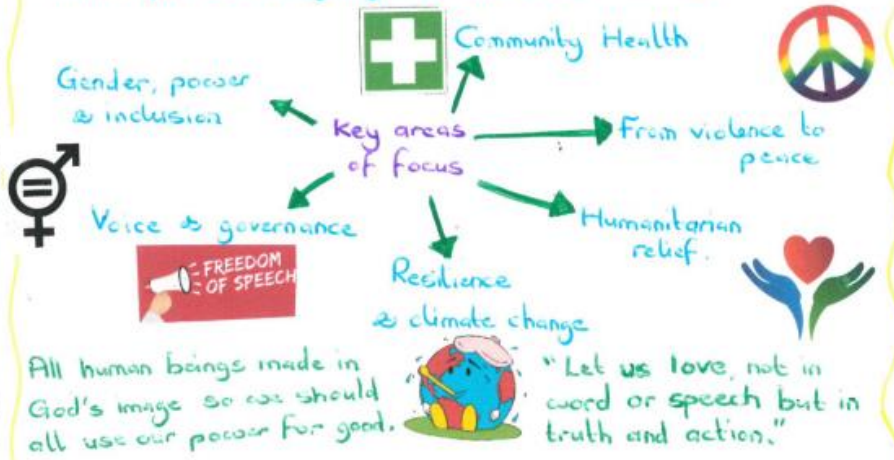


Case Studies



### Christian Aid

- Follow the teachings of Jesus to love your neighbour.
- Believes in 'life before death'.
- Aim to provide emergency aid, short-term aid, long-term aid.



### The Good Samaritan



About a traveller who is robbed & beaten and left for dead. A Samaritan finally passes by and helps.

Samaritans and Jews hated each other, but the Samaritan help.

"Love thy neighbour as yourself"

### The Parable of the Sheep and Goats



Jesus uses the example of how a shepherd separates his sheep from goats to teach how God will separate the good from the bad at judgement.

Sheep → Kind / Helpful → Heaven ☀️  
Goats → Ignorant / Hatelful → Hell 🔥



## Infant Baptism

A ceremony that welcomes a child to the Christian community and the parents able to thank God for their baby.

- Water - to wash away Original Sin.
- "I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- Cross on forehead - to remain faithful to Jesus.
- Promises made to bring the child up in the Christian faith.
- Candle lit - Jesus the light of the world - child receives this.



## Sacraments

An outward sign of an inward grace. A deeper reality than the senses:

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Holy Communion
- Reconciliation
- Anointing the sick
- Marriage
- Ordination



### Eucharist (Thanks giving)

- Lords Supper
- Holy Communion
- The Breaking of Bread
- Mass
- The Liturgy



### Key features:

- Connection to the Last Supper
- Giving of thanks for the bread & wine.
- Using Jesus' words from the last supper

## Believers Baptism

Is initiation into the Church, by full immersion into water, of people old enough to understand the ceremony.



- White clothes - new life / beginning.
- Candidates asked if they are truly sorry for sins & dedicated to living their lives through Jesus.
- Give a testimony of their faith.
- Full immersion symbolises the end of the life of sin and a new life beginning as they come out.

## Transubstantiation

Roman Catholics - bread & wine actually become the body & blood of Christ.

## Memorialism

Ceremony - an expression of Faith. Symbolic of Jesus' body and blood.

## Catholic Mass

- Bible & psalms readings
- Bread & wine at the altar.
- Jesus' words repeated.
- Lord's Prayer said.
- Sign of peace - people shaking hands.
- People receive the bread & wine & blessed by Priest.

## Holy Communion in the United Reformed Church.

- Hymns & various prayers.
- Bible Readings & a sermon.
- Minister repeats the words of Jesus.
- 'Open table' for anyone who wishes to receive Holy Communion.
- Ends with a prayer of thanks.



# CHRISTIAN PRACTICES

## Private Worship

Done individually, anywhere.

## Communal Worship

Done as a group in either a formal or informal setting.

## Worship

The show value or worth towards something or someone.

## Liturgical Worship

Involves a set format for worship.



- Bible readings, hymns, prayers follow set structure.
- Quite traditional.
- Services planned in advanced.

## Non-Liturgical Worship

There is no set structure to worship. Worship may be more spontaneous.



- Services can be led by a priest or members of the congregation.
- Allows people to be more involved.
- Less structure / more flexible.

## Charismatic Worship

Pentecostal Churches placing authority on the Holy Spirit to lead them.



- Inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- Very spontaneous.
- Less structure

## Informal Worship

More relaxed worship. May not take place in a church.



- Less / no structure
- Spontaneous
- Can worship God in different ways.
- Not always led by a priest / vicar

## Jesus Prayer

Repeated over and over - repeating Jesus name.

## Extempore Prayer

Impromptu prayer, no planning

Adoration - praising God

Confession - admit sins

Thanksgiving - giving thanks to God.

Supplication - asking for God's help.

God answering prayers

Hannah - having a baby  
Lazarus - coming back to life.

God not directly answering prayers

Sit Paul - told grace is all you need.

## Arrow Prayer

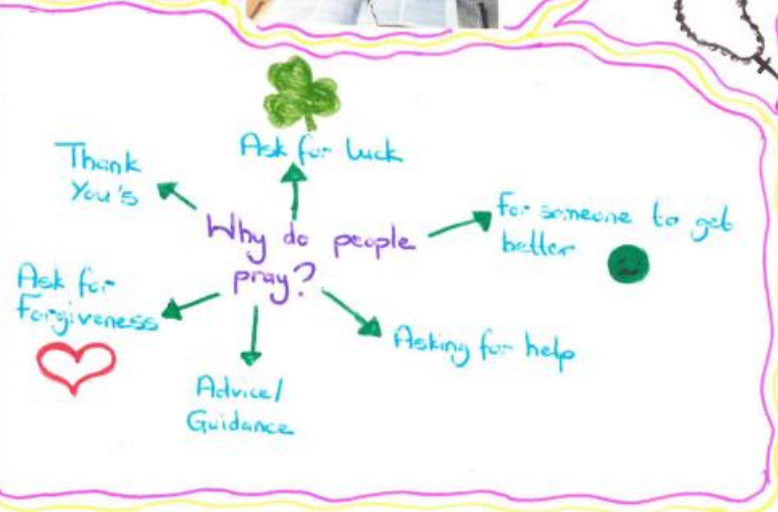
Quick prayers sent straight up to God.

## Prayer Communication with God



## Rosaries

Used to count prayers.





# CRIME AND PUNISHMENT



Justice - just / fair behaviour or treatment.

Rehabilitation - restoring something to its former condition. Helping someone change for the better.

Reoffending - committing a further offence.

Liberties - rights people have in society e.g. freedom.

Criminal law - a system of law concerned with punishment of offenders.

Civil law - a system of law concerned with private relations between members of a community.

Shariah Law - Islam's legal system based on the Qur'an and fatwas.

## Different Types of Crime.

Crime against a person: directed against an individual

or a group of people e.g. assault.

Crime against property: includes criminal damage such as vandalism and arson.

Crime against the state: an offence aimed at damaging the government or a country.

## Hate Crime

Crimes committed against people because they belong to a certain group.

- † Love thy neighbour
- ✗ Agape love
- ✓ Westboro Baptist Church - hateful towards many people.

- ★ Allah creates everyone equally - equal value
- ✗ Qur'an - Allah wants justice & fairness in the world.

## Shari'ah Law

- Based on the Qur'an.
- Code for living for Muslims.
- Shari'ah law is complex and its practice is reliant on experts.
- Many punishments are considered harsh - corporal & capital.
- Shari'ah law has no legal standing in Britain. Communities may use it to settle arguments & get advice.



## Theft

- † Forbidden in the 10 Commandments.
- 'You shall not steal.'

- ✗ Not acceptable.
- Due to Zikah there should be no need for stealing.
- Shari'ah law - hands chopped off for stealing.

## Murder

- † Life is God given - wrong to take it.
- 'You shall not murder.'

- ★ Believe in the sanctity of life.
- Taking life is likened to the taking of all lives.



## Aims of Punishment

- Reformation - changing someone's character for the better.
- Retribution - taking revenge - making a person pay for what they've done.
- Protection - shielding society from the criminal(s).
- Deterrence - aiming to stop people wanting to do something.
- Reparation - making amends for doing something wrong.
- Vindication - punishments put in place to ensure the law is respected.

## Forgiveness

Letting go of bad feelings/grudges against a person or group of people who have hurt you.

- † Forgive others as you wish to be forgiven.
- † God is merciful (forgiving & compassionate).
- † Jesus died for forgiveness of humanity's sins.
- ☾★ Only God can forgive & only those truly sorry.
- ☾★ Humans should forgive those who ask for it.

## Prison

- Aims to rehabilitate criminals as well as protect society from them.
- Some people question the effectiveness of prison as a punishment.
- † Prisons should treat people well and help them reform.
- ☾★ Prisons used whilst awaiting trials. Corporal Punishment mostly used under Shar'ah law.

## Restorative Justice

- Offenders are encouraged to think about their crime and effect it has on their victim(s).
- Meetings between criminal & victim held.



## Corporal Punishment

Punishment which punishes someone physically.

- † Disapprove of corporal punishment - not loving & may not encourage reform.
- † Some Christians agree with it as a deterrence.
- ☾★ Compulsory for certain crimes in countries that follow Shariah law.
- ☾★ Some Muslims feel harsh punishments are outdated.

## Death Penalty

Being put to death for a serious crime(s).

### For

- OT talks of death penalty for crimes like murder.
- Retaliation for a serious crime.
- Shariah Law supports the death penalty for serious crimes.
- Some people deserve it.
- Justice for the victims families.



### Against

- It is inhumane.
- No chance of repent or remorse.
- Goes against the teaching of forgiveness.
- May kill the wrong person.
- Hypocritical to say killing is wrong then put someone to death.
- Easy way out for a criminal.

## Community Service

People are made to make amends to their local community for their crime.

- E.g. vandals repair their vandalism.



## Intentions and Actions

**Intention** - reason why someone wants to do something.

**Actions** - what happens as a result of an intention.

**Duty** - an obligation or responsibility.

**Sin** - a thought or action against God.

**Christianity** - Good Intentions, actions & consequences

- 'Treat others how you would wish to be treated.'
- Christians should help those in need, because if they were in need, they would want others to help.
- Any intentions, or actions against God are sinful and wrong.

**Christianity** - Good intentions / Evil Actions or Evil Actions / Good Consequences.

- Provide for a starving family but steal in order to do this - acceptable for some Christians.
- Others would say all stealing is wrong. - duty to obey God.
- Many Christians say you should follow the most loving course of action.

**Christianity** - Evil intentions, actions & consequences.

- It is wrong and sinful to act evilly, on evil intentions & aim to produce evil consequences.

Free will - choices people make.

← Evil

→ The Devil (Iblis in Islam) tempting people to do wrong.

→ 'Original Sin' - tendency to do wrong.



## Evil & Suffering

**Christian teachings...**

• God gave humans free will - people cause suffering from their choices.



• The Fall - when Adam & Eve disobeyed God → introducing original sin.

• Power of Evil - Devil/Satan.

• We cannot understand God's plans for people.

• Need to experience bad to know what is good.

**Islamic teachings...**

• free will - suffering caused by humans following the wrong path.

• Iblis (the devil) tempts people to do evil. 

• Life - tests & temptations from Allah = test of faith.

• Wants people to turn to Him (Allah) in prayer.

• Rewarded in the after life.



Can it ever be good to cause or undergo suffering?

• Most of time - never good to cause suffering.

• If in self-defence it is OK.

• 'Do not resist an evildoer' - non-retaliation.

• If suffering occurs to save others this can be acceptable.

• Care / help those who suffer.

• Learn from mistakes / lessons.

• Jesus suffered - comfort to Christians.


Can it ever be good to cause or undergo suffering?

• Suffering will not be more than a person can cope with.

• All part of God's plan.

• Free will - people should make choices that do not harm people.

• Causing suffering to others is against the teachings of compassion and care.

• If suffering caused people should ask for forgiveness. 



## Poverty and Upbringing

- Someone who is poor more motivation to steal.
- May have less respect for the government and law.
- If brought up to believe committing crimes is acceptable, it may encourage them to also do so.
- † May feel there are good reasons for committing crimes e.g. stealing to feed a starving family.
- † Everyone should obey God's laws.
- ⚡ If people are stealing the community has failed.

MAKE  
POVERTY  
HISTORY

## Mental Illness and Addiction

- Some mental illnesses influence people to commit crimes.
- Kleptomania - influences people to steal things.
- Diminished responsibility - if people are not able to control their actions.
- Addiction can contribute to crime.
- † Treating the illness is the most loving and compassionate thing to do.
- ⚡ Drug abuse & drinking - not allowed. They are the work of Satan.



Psychological - your emotional/mental state, how you feel.

Environmental - living environment around you, area, and living place & conditions.

Social - effects of society/people, family, peers.

Conscience - inner feeling about what is wrong vs right.

Jealousy  
Poor living conditions

Greed

No morals

Peer Pressure



Anger

Gangs

Family in prison

Mental Illness

Neglect  
Unfair laws

Morality - judgement of right and wrong.

Persecution - treating people badly because of prejudice.

Prejudice - biased belief about someone.

Rehabilitation - aiming to reform someone (change them)

Sin - thought or action against God.

Zakah - giving of money to the needy.

## Greed and Hate

- Greed can cause more complex crimes being committed e.g. tax fraud.
- Hate crimes - hatred towards a person or group of people.
- † Jesus taught people not to be greedy.
- † To be greedy is sinful 'for the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.'
- ⚡ Greed is a temptation that should be avoided - distracts people from Allah.



## Opposition to an unjust law

- Some people break laws because they disagree with them.
- Some people protest laws they believe are unfair.
- † Laws should not be opposed because God wanted to obey their rulers.
- † Some laws not made by God are unjust so it is OK to stand up for what they believe in.
- ⚡ In Muslim countries Shari'ah law is in place which are God laws and must be obeyed.