Your notes

KS3 Religious Education: revision notes

Christianity

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Beliefs about God and Jesus

- Christians believe in one God, who is three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit. This is called the **Trinity**.
- Christians believe God created the world, is all-powerful (omnipotent), all-knowing (omniscient) and all-loving (omnibenevolent).
- Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God, who became human (the **incarnation**). He was crucified, and Christians believe he rose from the dead (the **resurrection**), making it possible for people to be forgiven and saved.

The Bible and teachings

- The Bible has two parts: the Old Testament (shared with Judaism) and the New Testament, including the four **Gospels** (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) about Jesus' life.
- Key teachings: love God and "love your neighbour as yourself"; the Golden Rule (treat others as you want to be treated); forgiveness. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches that everyone is our neighbour.
- **Agape** is selfless, unconditional love.

Worship and festivals

- Christians worship in churches, often on Sundays. Worship includes prayer (such as the Lord's Prayer), hymns, Bible readings and **Holy Communion** (also called the Eucharist or Mass), remembering Jesus' Last Supper.
- Baptism welcomes people into the Church.
- Festivals: Christmas (Jesus' birth), Lent (40 days of preparation), Easter (the **resurrection**) and Pentecost (the coming of the Holy Spirit).
- The main groups (**denominations**) are Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant, which includes Anglican and Methodist churches.

Key terms

Trinity	The belief that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Incarnation	The belief that God became human in Jesus.
Resurrection	Jesus rising from the dead.
Gospels	The four books about Jesus' life: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
Holy Communion	A service remembering the Last Supper, with bread and wine.
Agape	Selfless, unconditional love.
Denomination	A group within Christianity, such as Catholic or Methodist.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What is the Trinity?
2. What does Easter celebrate?
3. What is the incarnation?
4. How many Gospels are there?
5. What does the parable of the Good Samaritan teach?
6. What does Holy Communion remember?
7. What is agape?
8. What does Pentecost celebrate?

Answers

1. God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
2. The resurrection of Jesus
3. The belief that God became human in Jesus
4. Four
5. Everyone is our neighbour
6. The Last Supper
7. Selfless, unconditional love
8. The coming of the Holy Spirit

What to do next

Practise 10 questions on this topic

Try 3 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

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