Christianity: Key Beliefs and Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the core beliefs, symbols, and practices of Christianity, and to reflect on how these shape the lives of believers.

Read each card carefully. For the front, identify the term or concept. For the back, review the definition provided. Use these to test your knowledge of Christian traditions.

The Bible

The sacred text of Christianity, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, believed to be the word of God.

The Trinity

The Christian belief that God is one, but exists in three persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit.

Baptism

A sacred rite or sacrament using water to symbolise the washing away of sin and the beginning of a new life as a Christian.

Easter

The most important Christian festival, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead three days after his crucifixion.

Christmas

The festival celebrating the Nativity, or the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.

Church

The community of Christian believers, or the building where they gather for worship, prayer, and teaching.

Prayer

The act of communicating with God through words, silence, or meditation to offer thanks, ask for guidance, or share concerns.

Gospel

Literally meaning 'good news', these are the four accounts of the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus found in the New Testament.

Incarnation

The belief that God became human in the person of Jesus Christ to live among people.

Sacrament

An outward, visible sign of an inward, spiritual grace, such as Baptism or Holy Communion.

Parable

A simple story used by Jesus to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, such as The Good Samaritan.

Disciples

The original followers and students of Jesus who were taught by him and helped to spread his message.