

Christian Beliefs and the Community

Learning objective: To understand the core beliefs of Christianity, including the concept of the Trinity and the importance of communal worship.

Read the passage below carefully. Use your knowledge and the text provided to answer the questions in full sentences. Ensure your answers reflect an understanding of Christian theological concepts.

Christianity is a monotheistic religion, meaning followers believe in one God. A central mystery of the faith is the Trinity, which describes God as three persons in one: God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Christians believe that Jesus lived, died, and rose again to offer salvation to humanity. This hope is celebrated in churches, which serve as the heart of the Christian community. Within a church, the congregation gathers to worship, pray, and read the Bible, which they consider the holy word of God. Many Christians participate in sacraments, such as Baptism and Holy Communion, which are outward signs of their inner faith. Different denominations, such as the Church of England, the Catholic Church, or the Methodist Church, may have slight variations in how they conduct their services or interpret certain traditions. However, they are united by the core belief that love, kindness, and serving others are the most important ways to follow the teachings of Jesus. Through acts of charity and prayer, Christians strive to mirror the grace they believe God shows to the world every single day.

Word bank: Trinity · denomination · congregation · sacrament · worship · monotheistic

1. Identify the three persons that make up the Trinity according to Christian belief. (2 marks)

2. List two examples of sacraments mentioned in the text. (2 marks)

3. Explain why churches are described as being the 'heart' of the Christian community. (3 marks)

4. How does the author suggest that different Christian denominations remain connected despite their variations? (3 marks)

5. Do you think that communal worship is necessary for a person to follow their faith? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene inside a church that reflects the sense of community described in the text, including symbols that represent the Christian faith.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the importance of community in Christianity with another religion you have studied. Explain why you think religious groups place such a high value on gathering together. What might happen if a religious community was unable to meet in a physical building?