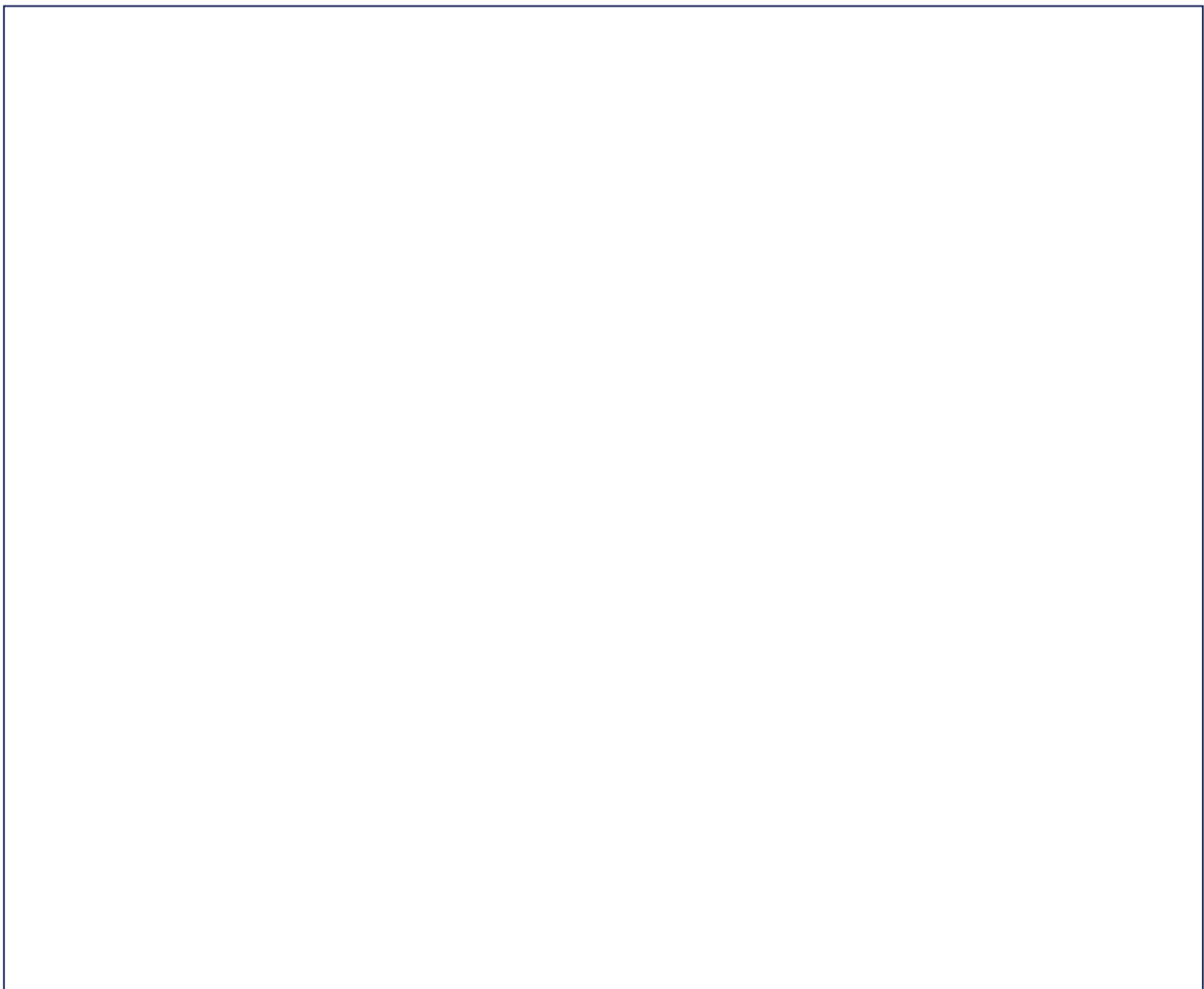


Symbols of Christian Belief: A Visual Exploration

Learning objective: To identify and illustrate key symbols used in Christianity and explain their significance to believers.

Use the drawing prompt below to create a visual representation of how Christians express their faith through symbols. Label your work using the provided word bank.

Draw: Draw a large, peaceful interior scene of a church or a quiet reflection corner. Within this space, include a stained-glass window featuring a dove, an open Bible on a wooden lectern, and an Ichthys symbol carved into a stone wall. Use a 'warm and reverent' art style, focusing on how light streams through the glass to highlight these symbols. Add a small figure of Ellie the elephant standing quietly, observing the symbols with curiosity.



Label words: Crucifix · Dove · Ichthys · Bible · Light · Alpha and Omega

Steps:

1. Explain why the 'Ichthys' (fish) symbol was historically significant for early Christians who lived in times of secrecy.
2. Compare and contrast the meaning of a plain cross with a crucifix. Why might a believer choose one over the other for personal prayer?
3. Justify your answer: Does the use of symbols make a religion easier or harder to understand for someone

outside of the faith?

4. What might happen if all symbols were removed from places of worship? How would this change the atmosphere or the way people pray?
5. Label your drawing to show where the 'Alpha and Omega' symbol is placed and describe what it represents about the nature of God.
6. Identify one other symbol not listed in the word bank that you have seen in a church. Describe its appearance and its meaning.