

Christianity: Beliefs and Practices

Learning objective: To describe and explain the core beliefs of Christianity and how they influence the lives of believers.

Use this scaffold to structure your essay. Ensure you use the vocabulary in the word bank to provide a balanced and thoughtful explanation of Christian faith. Focus on justifying your points with examples.

Christianity is a major world religion rooted in the belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, whose life and teachings continue to shape the lives of millions of people today.

Word bank: monotheistic · the Trinity · Incarnation · sacred · compassion · consequently · furthermore · in contrast · significantly · a testament to

1. What is the Christian concept of the Trinity, and why is this doctrine central to understanding their view of God? Start with: The concept of the Trinity refers to... (3 marks)

2. Explain how the teachings of Jesus, such as the Parable of the Good Samaritan, influence the way Christians treat others in their daily lives. Start with: Christian values are often demonstrated through... (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the importance of the two main Christian sacraments: Baptism and the Eucharist. Start with: Both Baptism and the Eucharist are considered sacred rituals, however... (4 marks)

4. Justify why many Christians choose to participate in charitable work as an expression of their faith. Start with: Many Christians believe that active service is a way to... (3 marks)

5. What might happen if a Christian were unable to attend church services or engage in community prayer? Explain the significance of communal worship. Start with: Communal worship provides believers with... (3 marks)

6. Evaluate the challenges a modern-day Christian might face when trying to apply ancient biblical teachings to 21st-century life. Start with: Applying ancient teachings in a modern context can be complex because... (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing Ellie the elephant about her understanding of history. Write a dialogue where she asks you to explain the significance of the 'Sermon on the Mount' and how its message of peace might be applied to a conflict in the modern world.