

Christian worship:

Worship in Christianity is when Christians show respect and appreciation towards God. It can take different forms, include liturgical and non liturgical worship.

Liturgical worship is when Christians worship according to a set pattern on a regular basis (e.g. on a Sunday). There will be set prayers and readings, often using the Book of Common prayer.

Non-Liturgical worship is less formal than liturgical worship, as it does not follow a set pattern and involves more unscripted forms of worship. Methodist and Pentecostal Christians use more non-liturgical worship.

Examples of Christian worship:

- Eucharist/ Holy Communion – on a Sunday when bread and wine (representing the body and blood of Christ) are distributed among the congregation.
- Charismatic worship – Pentecostal Churches often have non-liturgical worship involving clapping or dancing.
- Personal/ private prayer – spending time alone praying
- Silent – Quakers have no set pater but have periods of time in silence during worship

The nature and purpose of prayer:

Prayer is when a person tries to communicate or talk to God.

Purpose of prayer:

1. To get closer to God and communicate with Him.
2. To praise God or thank Him
3. To ask for God's help
4. To say sorry to God when they feel they have done something wrong.

Types of prayer:

Set prayers - some Christians have a prayer book that is used in Sunday services.

Informal prayer - This when they pray by themselves silently or allowed.

The Lord's prayer - this is the most famous prayer that Jesus taught his followers. It contains many of the key Christian beliefs about God.

The role of sacraments:

A sacrament is a rite of passage or ceremony where the grace and the power of God can be received.

Examples of sacraments:

- ❑ **Infant Baptism:** Most Christian groups have a ceremony to welcome a baby into the Christian faith – a christening or a baptism. It is believed that the baby is baptised it will cleanse the child of sin, parents and godparents make promises and a sign of the cross is made on the baby's head with water from the font in the church.
 - ❑ **Adult/ believers baptism:** Some non-conformist Churches e.g. the Baptist church prefer to baptise people when they are adults as they can make their own decision.
- ❑ **The Eucharist:** Re-enactment of the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. The bread represents the body and the wine the blood of Christ. Catholics call it 'Mass.' Catholics believe in transubstantiation – that the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus

Pilgrimage:

A pilgrimage is a journey religious people make to a special or holy place.

History of Christian pilgrimage:

Christian pilgrimage has its roots in Jewish pilgrimage. Jews used to travel for religious festival such as Passover so each Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for Passover and so did Jesus.

Christian pilgrimage was first seen when early Christians visited places of historical significance related to the life of Jesus e.g. Bethlehem (his birth place)

Other places are where saints are associated with or where vision have occurred.

Places of pilgrimage:

1. **Jerusalem** – Jesus celebrated his last supper, was arrested, crucified and resurrected in Jerusalem. Christians may visit the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus was betrayed and the Via Dolorosa the path he took to his crucifixion.
2. **Iona** – This island is sacred as many saints have lived their. Christians visit and spend time in prayer or reflection.
3. **Walsingham** – In 1061 a women in Walsingham received a vision of the virgin Mary, who showed her Jesus' home in Nazareth - A replica was build which many Christians visit.

Living the Christian life

Paper 1: Section 3



Celebrations:

Christmas:

- ❖ Celebrates the Incarnation and birth of Jesus – God on human form
- ❖ Advent marks the beginning of the Christian year and the countdown to Christmas. It takes place on four Sunday's before Christmas and is a period of preparation. Advent calendars are used to count down the days.
- ❖ Cards and present are given and church services such as Midnight Mass are held on Christmas day.

Easter:

- Easter remember the crucifixion and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus
- Good Friday is when Jesus was crucified and then on Easter Sunday the sadness of his death is forgotten and his resurrection is celebrated
- Holy Week is the final week of lent leading up to Easter to commemorates the last week of Jesus' life.
- Special services are held and Christians are reminded of Jesus' sacrifice and of the belief in eternal life.

The future of the Church

Missionary and evangelical work:

A missionary is a person who is sent out on a religious mission, especially to promote Christianity in foreign places.

Evangelical work refers to the spreading of faith by missionaries. The reason why Christians do missionary work is because Jesus said '**Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation**' (Mark 16:15)

Different ways Churches grow locally, globally and nationally:

Locally:

- ✓ Local churches fund projects to spread God's word e.g. via grants to community projects
- ✓ Events open the Church to non-believers and introduce them to Christianity
- ✓ Local churches provide community support e.g. through local food banks

Nationally:

- ✓ Many Churches are linked across the country and put on national events e.g. conferences and summer camps
- ✓ Special event days are held where people from different areas come together.

Globally:

- ✓ There may be opportunity to study or create links with Christians in other countries.
- ✓ People go on missionary work abroad or do charity work for Christian charities such as Christian Aid.

The worldwide Church

All Christians are united in being a part of the worldwide Christian Church,

The importance of the world wide Church:

- Gives a global identity to Christians
 - Promotes unity
- Provides support when needed – to Christians, other religious believers and non-religious individual
- Shows how Christian teachings can be put into action globally

Christian teachings about Charity

1. Christianity teaches about compassion and treating other people fairly; 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Mark 12:31)
2. Jesus taught about helping others e.g. in **the parable of the Good Samaritan**
3. Christians believe God made all humans in his image so they should be treated equally
4. Christians believe that humans are accountable to God in this life: In **the parable of the Sheep and the Goats** it talks about how humans will be judged according to how they have helped others.

The Church in the local community:

Role and importance of the Church community:

1. Unites the local community
2. Provides support and comfort when needed
3. Can give advice from sources of authority such as minister or vicar
4. Gives identity and belonging to people in a community

How does the Church help the local community?

1. **Centre of Christian identity** – Brings people together e.g. through clubs for children, social groups such as coffee morning etc.
2. **Ecumenism** – breaks down the barriers of different Christian denominations e.g. groups of Christians might visit each other, some share buildings and hold joint services.
3. **Out reach work** – Many Christians do volunteer work or work in positions that involve them going out into the local community.
4. **Worship through living practices** – Celebrate events such as Christmas and Easter, hold baptisms, funerals and marriages.

Important key words:



Monogamy: marriage is only to one person at a time

Cohabitation: Living together in a sexual relationship without being married

Sacraments – an outward ceremony through which God's grace is given

Diocese – a Church area under direction of the bishop

Gender prejudice- believing one sex is superior to another

Gender discrimination- putting the prejudice into action and treating one sex differently because of their sex

Sources of wisdom and authority:

- 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Mark 12:31)
- The parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
- The parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)
- 'God created mankind in his own image' (Genesis 1:27)
- 'Go into the world and preach the gospel to all of creation' (Mark 16:15)
- 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit ((Matthew 28:19)

