



5.1 What can we learn from great leaders and inspiring examples in today's world?

Religions – Christianity, Hinduism and Islam

Key Vocabulary

Zakat 2.5%	Giving to charity.
Ahimsa	Non-violence, non-harm.
Mahatma	Great Soul, a revered leader or teacher.
Holiness	Something that is special because it is to do with God.
Spiritual	To do with your thoughts, beliefs and imagination, not your body or the physical world around you.
Inspiration	The thing that makes you want to do something e.g. someone who makes you strive towards a goal.
Vision	The ability to imagine how a country, society, industry, etc. could develop in the future and to plan for this.
Values	The things you think are important to live a good life.
Commitment	To make a promise to do something.
Symbol	A small sign or mark which makes you think of a bigger idea.
Community	A group of people who live together or share similar values.

Big Questions
 what made this person into a leader?
 How did their religion inspire them? What holy texts explain their lives?
 Is this person inspiring just in their religion, or to any human?

Prior Learning

Hinduism (4.1, 4.4)

Islam (3.2, 3.3)

Christianity (1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 3.4)

Special People

Rosa Parks (1913-2005) American civil rights activist

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) Indian lawyer

William Booth (1829-1912) Founder of the Salvation Army

Dr Hany El-Banna (1950 -) founder of Islamic Relief

Malala Yousafzai (1997-) Activist for girls' education

Marcus Rashford (1997 -) Footballer and anti-poverty campaigner

Greta Thunburg (2003-) Climate activist

In both Christianity and Islam, there is a strong emphasis on justice. Christians believe they should follow the example of Jesus, who taught that the poorest should be treated with dignity and compassion and his followers should strive for justice and equality. The Quran states that all humans are equal in the eyes of Allah. Being caring and compassionate and working for equality through charity is central to Islam. Gandhi's advocacy of nonviolence was rooted in the Hindu belief in ahimsa – doing no harm and his own philosophy satyagraha – holding onto truth through love. Non-religious people have also strong beliefs about justice and equality based on human reason rather than belief in God.