

## 5.2: What is expected of a person in following a religion or belief?

### What matters most to Christians in their religion?

Key Vocabulary	
Christian	A person who follow the teachings of Jesus and believe He is the Son of God.
Christmas	Festival celebrating Jesus' birth.
commitment	To make a promise to do something.
crucifixion	An ancient punishment where a person is nailed to the cross.
Easter	The festival that celebrates Jesus' death and resurrection.
Eucharist	Holy communion, the commemoration of the last supper.
festival	A religious celebration.
Gospel	The life and teaching of Jesus. The four Gospels are the New Testament books Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
Holy Spirit	The active part of power or God in the world.
Incarnation	Having a body, specifically God becoming human in the form of Jesus.
Nicene Creed	A formal statement of Christian belief.
Pentecost	The festival that celebrates the Holy Spirit coming to Jesus' friends.
religion	What someone believes and how they show it in their lives.
resurrection	Jesus being raised to new life after dying on the cross.
salvation	Freedom from sin and its consequences (believed by Christians to be brought about by faith in Christ).
spiritual	To do with your thoughts, beliefs and imagination, not your body or the physical world around you.
Trinity	God the Father and Creator, God the son in Jesus and God the Holy Spirit- the three persons of God in one (as believed by most but not all Christian groups).

**The Nativity** story can be read in both the Gospel of Matthew & the Gospel of Luke but the accounts are different. Luke tells the story through Mary's eyes and focuses on the shepherds visit. Matthew's account focuses on Joseph's perspective and the visit of the Wise Men.

### What is Pentecost & why is it important to Christians?

The dove represents the Holy Spirit; one appeared at Jesus' baptism, bringing the Holy Spirit to him.

At Pentecost, Christians celebrate the Holy Spirit visiting the disciples, giving them the power to speak in many languages and spread God's message.

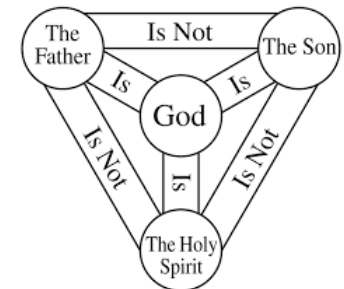
Some Christians believe that they receive the Holy Spirit when they are baptised whilst others believe the Holy Spirit is always with them.

Some believe that the Holy Spirit takes care of them and helps them make the right choices.



### What is the Nicene Creed?

**The Nicene Creed** records the idea of the **Holy Trinity** and was written down during a special meeting of church leaders in 325CE.



*The Creed tells us that...*  
 Christians only believe in one God.  
 God the Father is the creator of all things.  
 Jesus suffered and died for all humankind.  
 Jesus rose from the dead.  
 The Holy Spirit is the giver of life.

### Why is the crucifixion important to Christians?

At Easter, Christians remember Jesus' death on the cross at Calvary Hill and resurrection.

Jesus was betrayed to the Romans by Judas Iscariot for 'thirty pieces of silver' and arrested at the Garden of Gethsemane.

As Jesus suffers on the cross, he says 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'

Christians believe that the crucifixion proves that Jesus was the son of God.

It also sends a strong message of the need for forgiveness.

Christians believe that God - in his love - allowed his only son to die on the cross to save mankind from their sins.



### Why is the resurrection important to Christians?

On Easter Sunday, Christians remember that when some of Jesus' followers went to visit Jesus' tomb, they found the entrance stone moved and his body gone. A man 'appeared' who told them that he had risen to life.

The resurrection of Jesus gives Christians the belief that there is life after death.

It is also the ultimate display of God's power (his omnipotence).



### Palm Sunday:

Christians remember Jesus' triumphant arrival in Jerusalem, where they waved palm leaves in welcome & respect.



### The Temple:

Jesus criticised the people who were trading in a holy place - and disrupted their market.

The Jewish leaders began to feel threatened by his teachings and authority.



### Mount of Olives:

Jesus visited here three times in Holy Week - to both speak with his disciples and pray.



### Last Supper:

Jesus and his disciples share a Passover meal before his betrayal.

### What is the significance of Eucharist?

Christians share bread and wine to remember that Jesus gave his life for them.

At the Last Supper, Jesus shared bread with his disciples, saying...

"This is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."

Christians see this as an instruction that his believers should continue to follow.

He also shared wine, saying...

"This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you."

