

GOD

WHAT DOES IT MEAN IF GOD IS HOLY AND LOVING?

What you have already learnt:

- Identify and describe the core beliefs and concepts studied
- Make simple links between stories, teachings and concepts studied and how people live, individually and in communities
- Raise important questions and suggest answers about how far the beliefs and practices studied might make a difference to how pupils think and live
- Make clear links between texts/sources of authority and the key concepts studied
- Describe how people show their beliefs in how they worship and, in the way, they live
- Make links between some of the beliefs and practices studied and life in the world today, expressing some ideas of their own clearly
- Offer informed suggestions about what texts/sources of authority might mean and give examples of what these sources mean to believers
- Identify some differences in how people put their beliefs into practice
- Give good reasons for the views they have and the connections they make
- Talk about what they have learned and if they have changed their thinking

PSALM 103

The book of Psalms includes prayers and songs used by the people of God in private and communal prayer and worship. Psalm 103, written by King David, looks like it would have been used to lead a congregation in praise and worship. It starts with individual, personal praise to God, before moving outward to include communal praise. Verses 6–18 recall how God has been with his chosen people, specifically referring to the Exodus by mentioning Moses, but implying God's ongoing presence with David and his people too. The deliverance of the people from slavery is a constant reminder of God's love and care, as well as his desire for justice. Verses 19–22 call for universal praise, even from the angels. It mentions God's anger at sin (i.e. arising from his holiness) but highlights God's mercy and forgiveness.

ISAIAH 6

Isaiah was a prophet in Jerusalem in the eighth century BCE (Uzziah died in 740 BCE). This vision represents Isaiah's call to serve God. It highlights the holiness of God and the sense of uncleanness from Isaiah — seen in the Bible as a fitting response to God. It is at God's initiative that Isaiah is forgiven, made clean and prepared to communicate God's message to his people.

JOHN 4:7–13

This letter is traditionally attributed to the disciple John, writer of the Gospel and the Book of Revelation, although not all Christian scholars agree. The writer emphasises the love of God. He points out that if someone claims to know God, the evidence would be in the way that they show God's love in their lives.

Key Knowledge:



KNOWLEDGE BUILDING BLOCKS

PUPILS WILL KNOW THAT:

- Christians believe God is omnipotent, omniscient and eternal, and that this means God is worth worshipping.
- Christians believe God is both holy and loving, and Christians have to balance ideas of God being angered by sin and injustice (see Fall) but also loving, forgiving, and full of grace.
- Christians believe God loves people so much that Jesus was born, lived, was crucified and rose again to show God's love.

By the end of the Key Stage, you will be able to:

- Identify and explain the core beliefs and concepts studied, using examples from texts/sources of authority in religions
- Describe examples of ways in which people use texts/sources of authority to make sense of core beliefs and concepts
- Taking account of the context(s), suggest meanings for texts/ sources of authority studied, comparing their ideas with ways in which believers interpret them, showing awareness of different interpretations.
- Make clear connections between what people believe and how they live, individually and in communities
- Using evidence and examples, show how and why people put their beliefs into practice in different ways, e.g. in different communities, denominations or cultures
- Make connections between the beliefs and practices studied, evaluating and explaining their importance to different people (e.g. believers and atheists)
- Reflect on and articulate lessons people might gain from the beliefs/practices studied, including their own responses, recognising that others may think differently
- Consider and weigh up how ideas studied in this unit relate to their own experiences and experiences of the world today, developing insights of their own and giving good reasons for the views they have and the connections they make
- Talk about what they have learned, how their thinking may have changed and why

SEVEN THINGS GOD HATES

PROVERBS 6: 16–19 This Bible text gives a definite picture of 'what kind of God' the writer believes in. Here, God does not hate any person, but the actions that hurt or harm the community. The book of Proverbs is classified as 'Wisdom' literature (see more examples in Unit 3.5). As its name suggests, it is full of pithy sayings to guide people in living well. It is full of practical and concrete comments, not theoretical or abstract. This description of what God hates is not a theoretical account of the nature of God but a clear and direct call to moral behaviour. The seven things God is said to hate may need some discussion and clarification:

- Proud or haughty eyes: people who look on others with contempt.
- A lying tongue: people who don't stick to the truth.
- Hands that kill those who aren't guilty: murderers.
- Hearts that make evil plans: this example is about what we intend, not just what we do.
- Feet that are quick to do evil: where choosing bad or nasty behaviour is easy.
- Anyone who pours out lies: while the action is condemned here, the person is also in danger, because the lies are not occasional, but 'poured out'.
- Anyone who stirs up conflict in the community: this includes, perhaps, many behaviours from gossiping to rabble-rousing

By the end of this unit, you will be able to:

Identify some different types of biblical texts, using technical terms accurately.

Explain connections between biblical texts and Christian ideas of God, using theological terms.

Make clear connections between Bible texts studied and what Christians believe about God; for example, through how churches are designed.

Show how Christians put their beliefs into practice in worship.

Make clear connections between Bible texts studied about God and how Christians put these beliefs into practice; for example, through calling for justice, promoting forgiveness and so on.

Show how Christians put their beliefs about God into practice in worship; for example, through confession.

Weigh up how biblical ideas and teachings about God as holy and loving might make a difference in the world today, developing insights of their own.

Key Vocabulary:

Relationship - A connection between people where they care for, talk to, and support each other.

Celebrity - A famous person, like an actor, singer, or athlete, known by many people.

Qualities - The special characteristics or features that make someone or something unique, such as kindness.

Forgiveness - The act of letting go of anger or bitterness after someone has hurt or wronged you.

Holiness - Being pure, perfect, and set apart from all things bad. Christians believe God is holy.

Loving - Showing care, kindness, and affection toward others, such as how God loves people.

Sin - Actions that go against God's rules or cause harm, like lying or hurting others.

Altar - A special table in a church where religious ceremonies, like prayer or offerings, take place.

Sacrifice - Giving up something important for the good of others, like giving your time or resources.

Repentance - Feeling sorry for bad actions and deciding to change and do better in the future.

Mercy - Showing kindness and forgiveness, even when someone doesn't deserve it, like God's mercy for people.

Holistic - Considering all parts of something, like looking at a person's mind, body, and spirit together.

Justice - Treating people fairly and making sure everyone gets what they deserve, like when rules are followed.

Grace - God's kindness and love given freely, even though people don't always deserve it.

Key Concepts:

God
Purposes
Revelation
Faith
Trust
Experience
Searching
Soul
Spirit
Morality
Wonder
Awe
Sacred
Reverence
Prayer
Praise
Reverence
Ceremony
Scripture
Inspiration
Purpose
Freedom
Love

Opportunities for teaching diversity, equality and expanding cultural capital

- Learning about other religions and their core beliefs, expanding cultural awareness.
- Learning about how to show respect to different people who hold different faiths and beliefs.
- Investigating how different people celebrate milestones in life, including those who do not have a religious belief-promoting respect and tolerance.

Key Skills

- Apply
- Analyse
- Describe
- Connect ideas
- Consider
- Question
- Discuss
- Respond thoughtfully
- Evaluate
- Create
- Outline
- Link
- Explain
- Recognise impact
- Express
- Investigate

Skills and knowledge which I may use from other subjects:

- PSHE**
- Investigate personal qualities which make a good friend/healthy relationship.
- Art**
- Explore painting/sketching/drawing techniques
- Geography**
- Studying architecture of Holy buildings in different areas of the world.
 - Researching Christianity in other cultures.

Recall and Remember

- What does the word "holiness" mean?
- a) Being kind to others
 - b) Being pure and perfect, set apart from bad things
 - c) Being famous
 - d) Showing mercy to others

Write the Answer:
What does it mean to forgive someone?

- Which of the following best describes the word "sacrifice"?
- a) Helping someone because you feel guilty
 - b) Giving up something important for the good of others
 - c) Feeling sorry for your mistakes
 - d) Saying sorry to someone

Write the Answer:
Can you give an example of when God is shown to be holy?

Can you give an example of when God is shown to be loving?
