



WJEC GCSE in RELIGIOUS STUDIES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRAL LEARNING AND APPLICATION OF CHRISTIAN BELIEFS TO PHILOSOPHICAL AND ETHICAL THEMES





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Theme 1 Issues of life and death	Unit 1 Christianity
Origin of the universe Genesis 1 and 2; attitudes about dominion and stewardship Attitudes toward the origin and sanctity of human life Genesis 1.31; Jeremiah 1.5 Attitudes to euthanasia and abortion Attitudes to organ donation	God as creator and sustainer; Genesis 1–3
Attitudes about dominion	Omnipotence
	Teachings of Jesus
Diverse Christian teachings	Diversity of Christianity
	Unit 2 Christianity
Different interpretations of the creation story	Diversity of Christianity - attitudes to the Bible
References to any attitudes to e.g. abortion, euthanasia, sanctity of life	The Bible in relation to other sources of authority e.g. conscience Romans 2; family, reason, society, situations, civil law, circumstances
Beliefs and teachings about life after death - John 11; I Corinthians Diverse teachings about resurrection How Christian funerals reflect beliefs about the after-life.	Belief in life after death John 3; John 11 ; gospel records of the resurrection
Diverse beliefs about after-life, heaven, hell, purgatory	Heaven and hell John 14; Luke 16



Theme 2 Issues of good and evil	Unit 1 Christianity
Forgiveness; challenges posed by belief in God and existence of evil and suffering	God as omnibenevolent
Forgiveness	Nature of humanity - made in the image of God
What makes an act wrong Religious responses: relative and absolute morality, conscience, virtues, sin	Soul, moral, rational
Original sin and free will; origin of evil	Free will
Original sin and free will	Fallen
Original sin and free will	Genesis 1-3
What makes an act wrong Religious responses: relative and absolute morality, conscience, virtues, sin Attitudes to the death penalty	Divine command/absolutist and situationist/relativist approaches to ethical decision making
	Teachings of Jesus
Attitudes to the death penalty Mt 5; Mt 6; Mt 18; teachings on forgiveness; examples of forgiveness	Forgiveness (Mt 6; Mt 18; Luke 23; Mt 5)
Diverse Christian responses	Diversity of Christianity
Peace	WCC and Reconciliation
	Unit 2 Christianity
What makes an act wrong? Religious responses: relative and absolute morality, conscience, virtues, sin	Diversity of Christianity - attitudes to the Bible
What makes an act wrong? Religious responses: relative and absolute morality, conscience, virtues, sin Attitudes to the death penalty	Bible in relation to other sources of authority e.g. conscience Romans 2; family, reason, society, situations, civil law, circumstances
Attitudes to punishment	Love/agape Mt 7; Mt 25
What makes an act wrong Religious responses: relative and absolute morality, conscience, virtues, sin	Judgement and responsibility for actions Mt 25:31-46
Aims of punishment	Heaven and hell John 14; Luke 16



Theme 3 Issues of relationships	Unit 1 Christianity
Nature and purpose of relationships	Teachings of Jesus
Attitudes to contraception	God as creator Gen 1-3
Attitudes to adultery, divorce	Forgiveness (Mt 6; Mt 18; Luke 23; Mt 5)
Diverse attitudes to	Diversity of Christianity
Attitudes to relationships	Love/Agape Mt 7; Mt 25
Marriage outside the religious tradition	Inter-faith dialogue; Christian-Muslim Forum; CCJ
	Unit 2 Christianity
Attitudes to sex; contraception	Diversity of Christianity - attitudes to the Bible
Attitudes to	Bible in relation to other sources of authority e.g. conscience. Romans 2; family, reason society, situations, civil law, circumstances
Nature and purpose of marriage as expressed through Christian marriage ceremonies and teachings Mark 10	Significance of a religious wedding Mark 10: matrimonial symbols and vows



Theme 4 Issues of human rights	Unit 1 Christianity
Attitudes to human life, prejudice and discrimination; use of wealth	Teachings of Jesus
Dignity of human life Gen 1	God as creator Gen 1-3
Agape in action	Love/agape Mt 7; Mt 25
Acquisition and use of wealth; Luke 16	Treasures on earth/in heaven Mt 6; Luke 16
Attitudes to	Diversity of Christianity
Christian charities	Role of the local church – social and community functions of churches
Actions and attitudes of Christian charities Food banks	Food banks Work of Salvation Army Work of Shelter Cymru
Censorship, freedom of religious expression and religious extremism	Persecution of Christians in the modern world Matthew 10.22
	Unit 2 Christianity
Attitudes to	Diversity of Christianity - attitudes to the Bible
Example of conflict between personal conviction and laws of a country	Bible in relation to other sources of authority e.g. conscience. Romans 2; family, reason society, situations, civil law, circumstances