

## Wonderful words

*Creation: The beginning of the world and everything in it*

*Catholic: a Christian denomination whose leader is called the Pope*

*Big Story: the story of the Bible from Creation through to Salvation*

*Responsibility: a moral need to take care of something*

*Sin: to do something that goes against God's law or an act which is against God's law*

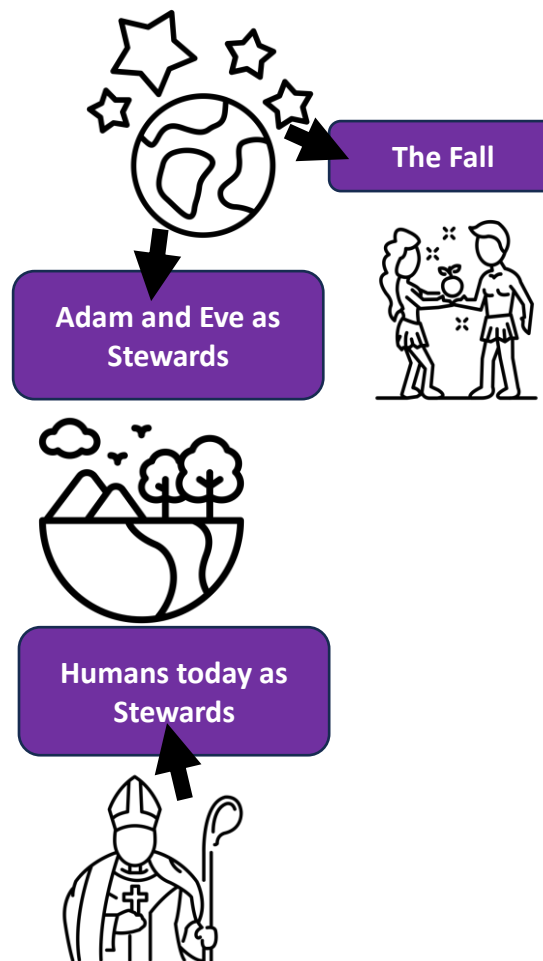
*Steward: a person who looks after something, in Christianity looking after God's good earth*

*Interpret: to explain or understand the meaning of something*

*Genesis: the first book in the Old Testament which contains the story of Creation and The Fall*

*Fall: when Adam and Eve sinned against God and fell from being close to God*

## So how does it all work?



## Important information

The Bible has many stories in it about humanity's relationship with God. These stories together are called the **Big Story** which starts with the story of **Creation** in the book of **Genesis** in the Old Testament.

The Bible talks about God existing before the Creation story and being in all parts of the Big Story. The story of creation tells people about God creating the universe and everything in it.

At the end of each of the days of Creation God saw that everything was good. In the Creation story God asks humans to be **stewards** and to take **responsibility** and to look after Creation for him. Christians have read the Creation and **interpret** that this is what God wants them to do.

The book of Genesis in the Bible also talks about an event called the **Fall**. In this story Adam and Eve went against what God had told them. God had commanded that they should not eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge, but they gave into **temptation** and committed a **sin** against God.

The leader of the **Catholic** denomination, the Pope, wrote a letter telling people to follow the teaching of stewardship from the Bible and to look after the planet but not to interpret it wrongly and not to do they wanted with the world that would harm it.

## Wonderful words

**Prophets:** messengers sent from God

**Abram:** the Prophet who made a covenant with God who is later called Abraham.

**Noah:** the prophet who was told to build an Ark by God and who made a covenant with God.

**Wedding:** a ceremony when a couple make promises to be married and promises to God

**Old Testament:** the first 39 books of the Bible which tell about Creation and God's covenant with his people.

**Promise:** when you say you will do something

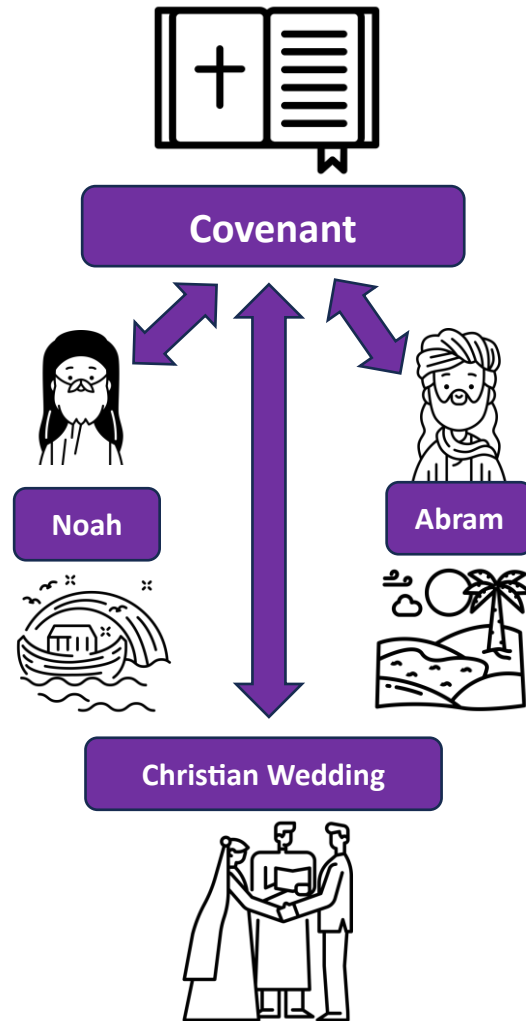
**Abraham:** the Prophet who made a covenant with God and who was told to leave there he lived.

**Covenant:** a promise made between God and Prophet Abraham for the people

**Righteous:** something that is good with God

**Christians:** religious people who believe Jesus is the Son of God who came to save them.

## So how does it all work?



## Important information

In the Bible the **Old Testament** teaches the story of the people of God and how they lived their lives.

There are many stories of **prophets** who brought messages to the people of God about how they should behave and the **promise** God makes with the people.

**Noah** was told by God to build an Ark as the people did not listen to God. When the flood arrived Noah took his family and the animals into the Ark. At the end of the flood God placed a rainbow in the sky and made a **covenant** with Noah that he wouldn't send another flood or destroy the earth again.

God also made a covenant with **Abram** who is also called **Abraham**. God asked Abram to leave where he was living and to move to the land that God would give him and his family. Abram did exactly as God had said even though it was not the easy thing for him to do even though it was the **righteous** thing for him to do.

In a **wedding** ceremony **Christians** also make a promise to care and look after each other and they will make these promises in front of God which is also a covenant with him. The covenant made at a wedding is similar to the covenant with Noah in that the person is making promises to God and God is promising something to them as well.

## Wonderful words

**Significant:** having a special meaning, something that is very important

**Journey:** a person's experience of changing or travelling from one point to another point

**Baptism:** a ceremony that welcomes someone into the Christian church

**Commitment:** a strong belief in something and a promise to do something

**Marriage:** a legal union between two people

**Bar Mitzvah:** a joining ceremony when a Jewish boy takes on the responsibilities of his religion.

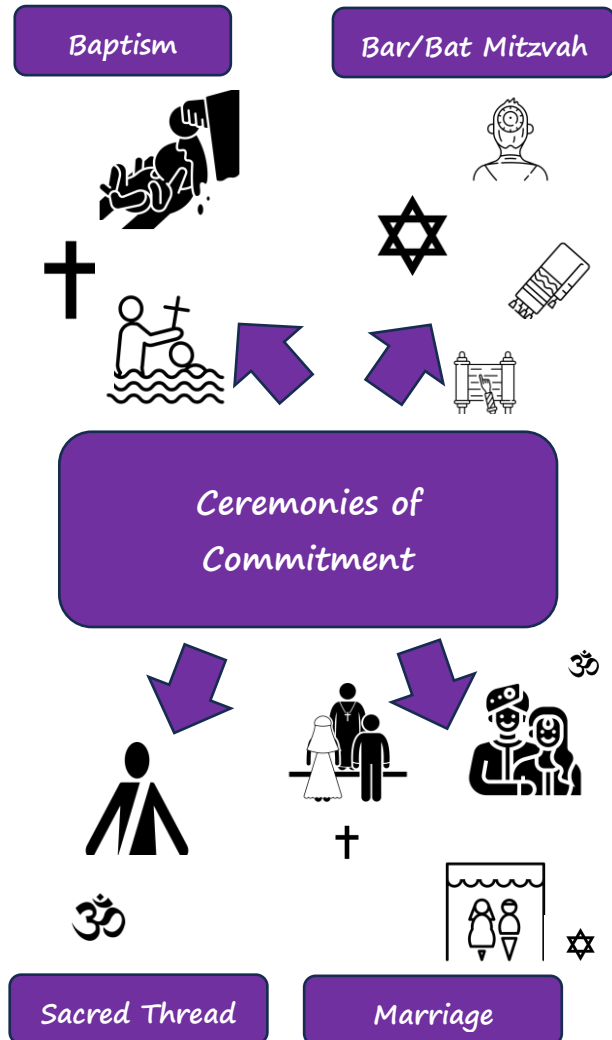
**Bat Mitzvah:** a joining ceremony when a Jewish girl takes on the responsibilities of her religion.

**Ceremony:** a formal event linked to something special

**Wedding:** a ceremony when a couple make promises to be married and promises to God

**Sacred Thread:** a ceremony when a Hindu is ready to take responsibility for their religious life.

## So how does it all work?



## Important information

Many religious worldviews will hold a **ceremony** to celebrate **significant** points in the religious **journey** a person is taking. These take place at various points in a person's life and help to show their **commitment** to their religion.

**Baptism** is an important ceremony in Christianity as it celebrates someone becoming a member of the Christian community. This can happen for babies or for older people when they wish to join the Church.

At the age of thirteen many Jewish boys will have a **Bar Mitzvah** and many girls at the age of twelve will have a **Bat Mitzvah**. This ceremony shows they have reached the part of their journey to take responsibility for their religious life.

Many Hindu boys and some Hindu girls will have a **Sacred Thread** ceremony which means they are taking responsibility for their religious life as well.

Many religious people will choose to mark their **marriage** with a religious **wedding** ceremony to represent the next stage in their lives and to show commitment to their married partner.

## Wonderful words

**Tikkun Olam:** in Judaism it is any activity that repairs the world.

**Jewish:** anything that is part of, or someone who follows Judaism.

**Muslim:** a person who submits to the will of Allah by following the religion of Islam.

**Zakat:** giving of charity usually 2.5% of income, this is the 2nd Pillar of Islam

**Stewardship:** the act of looking after and caring for something

**Steward:** someone who looks after or cares for something for someone else

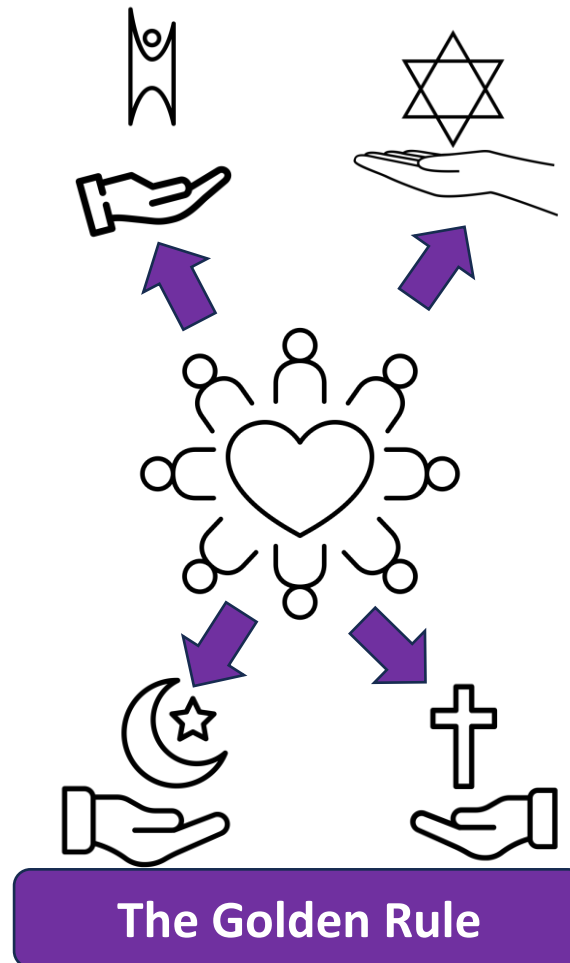
**Salvation:** being saved or rescued so that humans are no longer separated from God

**Humanist:** a person who does not believe in a god. They believe it is possible to live a good and fulfilling life without following a traditional religion.

**Golden Rule:** a belief that everyone should treat each other how they would like to be treated.

**Christian:** anything that is part of, or someone who follows Christianity.

## So how does it all work?



## Important information

Many religious and non-religious worldviews tell people what is wrong with the world and suggest how it can be put right. The Golden Rule is something that worldviews view as something that everyone can follow.

In Jewish worldviews there is the teaching of **Tikkun Olam** which means to mend or repair the world. This can be done through charity work and caring for the planet or acting as a **steward** because God asked people to look after the earth, he had created for them.

**Stewardship** is also important in Christianity and Islam as God asked humanity to look after the earth he had created.

Christians believe the Jesus came to bring them **salvation** so that rift between God and humanity at the Fall can be repaired. They believe that Jesus died on the cross so that they could have a new relationship with God.

Muslims believe they have a duty to make the world a better place for the people who live in it as a form of worship to Allah. One of the five pillars of Islam, **Zakat** requires them to give charity to help people poorer than they are.

People who follow the **Humanist** worldview view believe that we have a duty to help everyone because we are human and not because of the commandment of God, as they do not believe in a god.

## Wonderful words

**Hindu:** a follower of Hinduism, sometimes referred to as Sanatan Dharma, the eternal teaching.

**Puja:** ceremonial worship at home or in the Mandir

**Ramayana:** one of the great stories of the Hindu Dharma

**Shrine:** a place of worship for a Hindu either in the home or the mandir

**Rama:** a very important deity and the hero of the Ramayana

**Dharma:** Duty. By fulfilling their duty Hindus believe they will attain Moksha

**Deity:** Brahman channeled into different forms

**Mandir:** a place where Hindus go to worship.

**Diwali:** Hindu festival of lights and a festival of good overcoming evil

**Sita:** the wife of Rama

## So how does it all work?



Puja in the Mandir or the Home



Rama

Sita



Diwali celebrating good overcoming evil in the Ramayana



## Important information

The **Hindu Dharma** has its origins in India and is the most ancient of the larger religious worldviews in the world today.

For many Hindus it is important that they connect with Brahman, the ultimate reality and they will perform **puja** in their home or in the **mandir**. The puja will take place at the **shrine** which is often dedicated to a **deity** within the Hindu Dharma. The shrine will often contain a **murti** which is a statue of the deity.

The puja focuses the Hindu on Brahman and helps them fulfil their **dharma** or purpose. Many stories in the Hindu Dharma try to explain what the dharma is for humans and they will help Hindus to fulfil their duty.

One of the great epic poems of the Hindu Dharma is the **Ramayana** which is connected to the festival of **Diwali**. The main characters of the Ramayana, **Rama** and his wife **Sita** are good examples to Hindus as to how they can fulfil their dharma. The story of the Ramayana is one of good overcoming evil and the festival of Diwali is celebrated all over the world to remember this.

## Wonderful words

**Jesus:** the second person of the Trinity or the Son, God in the flesh

**Disciples:** the followers of Jesus

**Follower:** a person who supports and admires a particular person

**Clergy:** all of the people who are ordained for Christian ministry

**Galilee:** a lake in Judea around which Jesus did much of his teaching

**Vicar:** a person in charge of a church

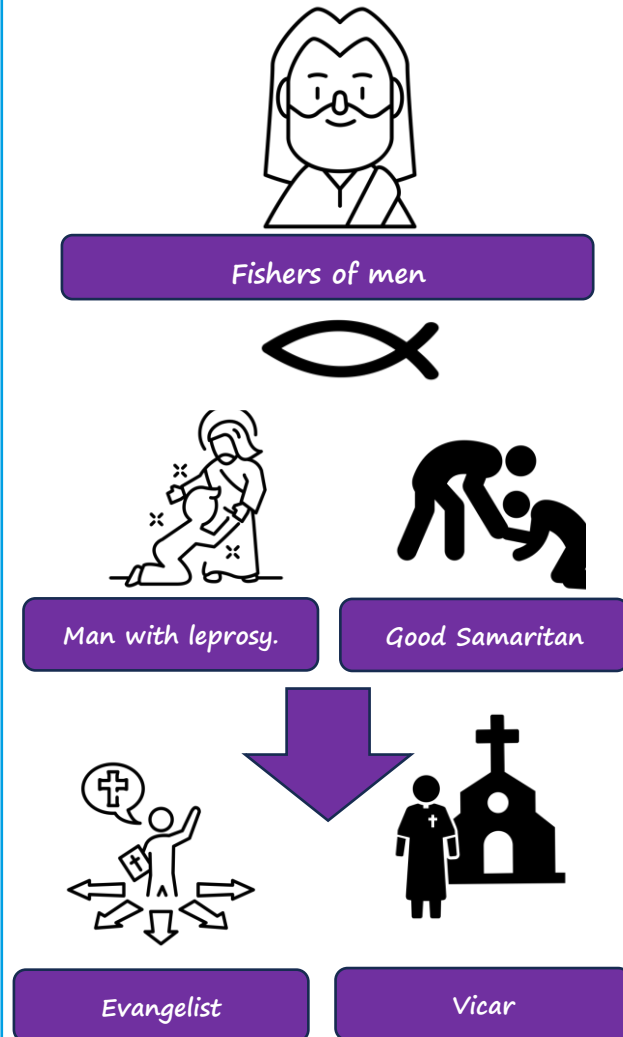
**Parable:** a story with a meaning

**Samaritan:** a person from the land of Samaria, a group of people whom the Jewish people disliked.

**Gospel:** the good news about Jesus, a book of the New Testament recounting Jesus' life

**Evangelist:** someone who shares the good news about Jesus through preaching and teaching

## So how does it all work?



## Important information

The first four people Jesus called to follow him were fishermen who were working on the Sea of Galilee. Each one of these decided to give up their work and become a **follower** of Jesus. Jesus asked them to become fishers of men.

To help people understand how they should live, and the kind of world Jesus wanted, he told them stories with meanings. One of these was the **parable** of the Good Samaritan. Each of the four books in the Bible which contain these parables and stories about the life of Jesus is known as a **gospel**.

**Disciples** is a name for those who follow Jesus and believe that he is the Son of God. The **clergy** are carrying on the role that Jesus gave his disciples to become fishers of men.

**Evangelists** will go out into the world and tell people all about Jesus and his message so they can follow his example and teaching. A Christian may decide to become a **vicar** and they work in their local community to tell people about Jesus and to help them as Jesus helped people, such as when he healed the man with leprosy.