

Who do Christians say made the world?

Wonderful words

Creation: the act of God creating the world and everyone in it and everything that has been created by God

World: the planet and everything and everyone in it

Belief: trust or confidence in something

Thank: to express gratefulness for something

Harvest: to gather in crops and a Christian celebration

God: the all loving and all powerful being that Christians believe created the world and everything in it

Believe: to accept that something is true

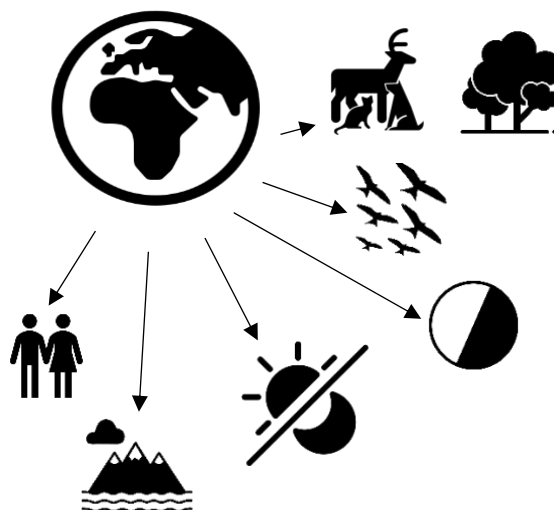
Bible: the holy book for Christians, comprising the Old Testament and the New Testament

Genesis: the first book of Moses for Jewish people and the first book of the Old Testament for Christians

Praise: to show and express gratitude and thanks to God

So how does it all work?

God's Creation



Christians say thank you to God



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Important information

The first book of the **Bible** is the book of **Genesis** which in Chapters 1 and 2 tells Christians the story of how **God** created the world and everyone in it. This is known as the Story of **Creation**.

The story tells Christians how God made the world in six days and then on the seventh day he rested. Although some Christians may disagree with the events of **Creation**, they all **believe** that God is responsible for creating everything in some way.

Christians have a very strongly held **belief** that they should look after everything that God has created, and they should **thank** him for the world and everything in it.

Although Christians can thank God, pray to him and worship him at any time, the festival of **Harvest** is a key time in the Christian year when they **praise** him for **Creation**. This is a time when Christians can thank God for all he has made and for all they have been given. Christians will be singing songs about God as creator and about all he has given people.

Why does Christmas matter to Christians?

Wonderful words

Incarnation: 'in the flesh'; Christians believe Jesus is God 'in the flesh', or God incarnate

Jesus: The second person of the Trinity or the Son; God in the flesh

Mary: the mother of Jesus

Joseph: the husband of Mary

Shepherds: the first people to visit Jesus after he was born

Advent: the four Sundays leading up to Christmas

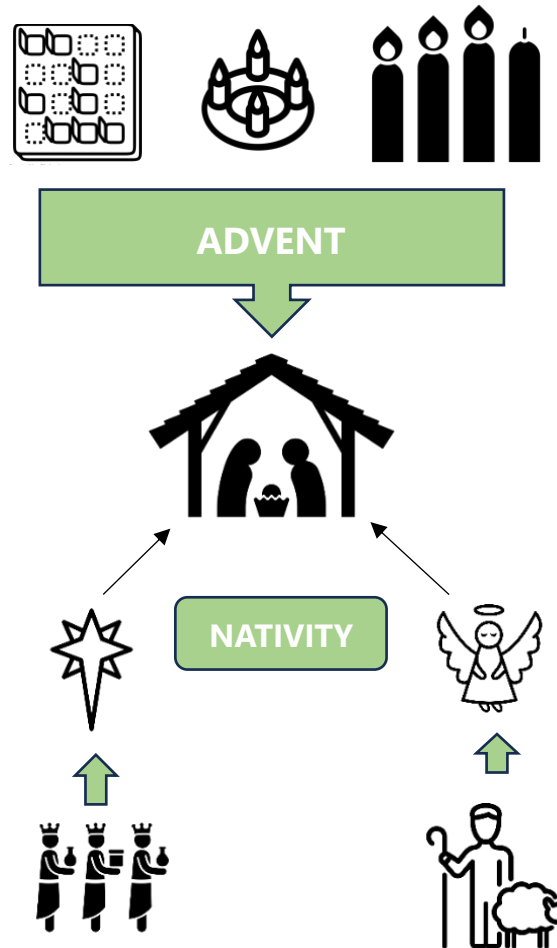
Secular: anything that is not connected with religion or religious worldviews

Religious: believing in a religion

Birth: the arrival of a baby into the world

Celebration: an enjoyable activity held to remember something

So how does it all work?



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Important information

Christmas is a very important **celebration** around the world as a **religious** celebration for Christians and also as a **secular** celebration for many people who are not Christian.

At Christmas people remember the **birth** of Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem. Christians use the weeks before Christmas known as **advent** to prepare for the celebration of God becoming human in Jesus. Christians believe that Christmas is a time to remember how Jesus came to earth as both God and human and they call this belief the **incarnation**.

Advent is a time when people will use advent calendars, wreaths, and candles to remember the days leading up to the birth of Jesus.

The story of the birth of Jesus is celebrated in many ways including through cards, Nativity plays and church services. Christians remember **Mary** and **Jospeh** and the events of the story, including Jesus being born in a manger as there was no room anywhere else and how the first visitors to see him were the **shepherds**.

The shepherds were the first people to visit Jesus in the manger and this shows how Jesus was born for everyone, rich and poor alike.

Wonderful words

Jewish: Relating to the religion of Judaism.

Holy: Something that is considered to be good because it relates to religion

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

Place of Worship: A building where religious people gather to praise and worship God.

Muslim: A person who submits to the will of Allah by following the religion of Islam or something relating to the religion of Islam.

Community: A group of people who have something in common

Sacred: Something connected with God or dedicated to a religious purpose

Worship: To praise and follow God

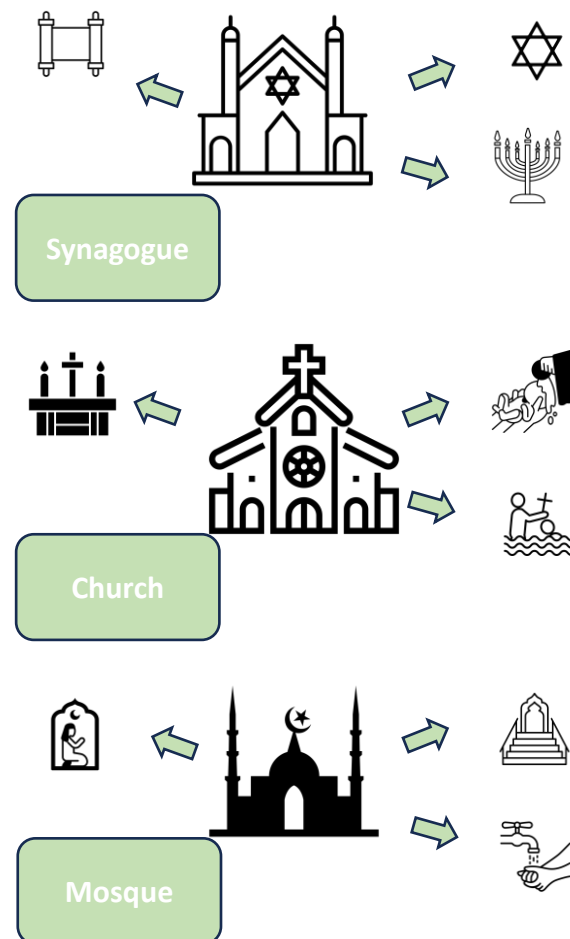
Church: The Christian place of worship

Mosque: The Muslim place a worship

Shabbat: A day of rest for Jewish people, the seventh day of the week

Synagogue: The Jewish place of worship, sometimes called a shul.

So how does it all work?



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Important information

Places of worship are important to many religious people whichever religion they follow. The main purpose of a place of worship is to allow the **community** to come together and to **worship** together. This special purpose makes a place of worship a **sacred** space for religious people as it is dedicated to worshipping God.

A **church** is a **holy** building for **Christians** where they come together to worship God and also to celebrate key events in the lives of the people who worship there.

Jewish people will come together to worship God in a **synagogue** which means meeting place and is sometimes called a shul or school. Many Jewish people will gather together at the synagogue on **Shabbat** as this is the seventh day of the Jewish week and a day of rest.

The **mosque** is an important place of worship for the **Muslim** community, it allows them to come together for salah every day and for Friday Prayers so that Muslims can worship Allah as one.

Many places of worship also hold **community** events that also help people become part of their religious community. Many events related to special times in the life of a religious person are often held in a place of worship, these can include joining a religion, getting married or when a person dies.

Wonderful words

God: the all loving and powerful being that Christians believe created the world and everything in it

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

Saviour: Jesus came to save or rescue people e.g., by showing them how to live

Resurrection: Jesus' return to life after dying

Eternal Life: the belief that through Jesus' death Christians can go to Heaven to be with God for eternity.

Secular: anything that is not connected with religion or religious worldviews

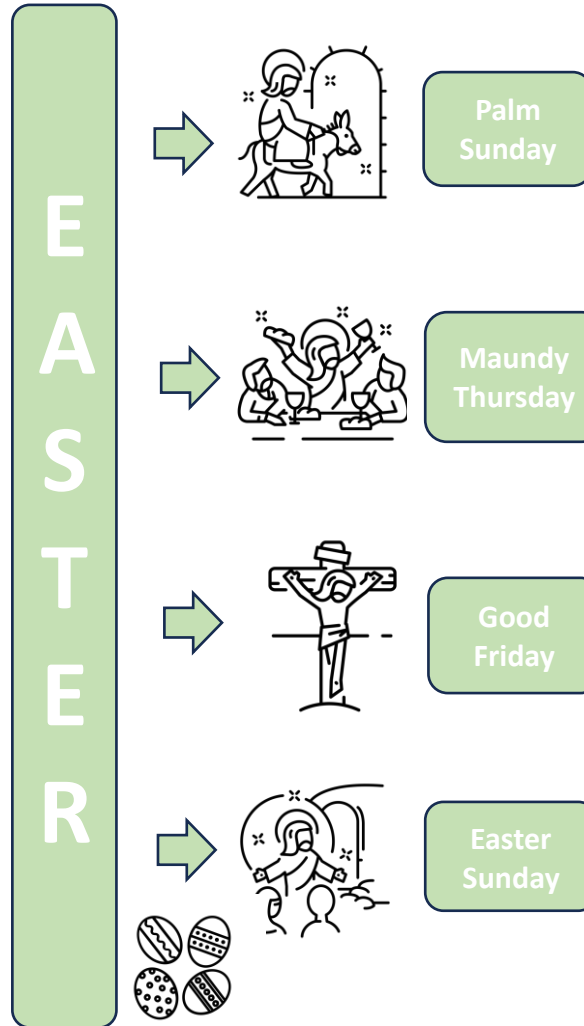
Easter: the Christian festival which remembers the resurrection of Jesus.

Worship: to praise and follow God

Good Friday: the Friday of Holy Week, the day on which Jesus was crucified.

Religious: believing in a religion

So how does it all work?



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Important information

Easter is the most important celebration for Christians during the year. It is a time for them to reflect on the events in the life of Jesus from Palm through to Easter Sunday.

Christians remember how through his death and **resurrection** Jesus healed the rift between humanity and **God** caused by sin. Christians refer to Jesus as **Saviour** as he saved them from being away from God and brought them **salvation** so that when they die, they can have **eternal life** in heaven with God.

Easter can be celebrated in many ways, **religious** and **secular**. During Easter week, sometimes called Holy Week, many Christians will feel a lot of different emotions, they will feel happy on Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. They may feel sad and upset on **Good Friday** as they remember this as the day Jesus died.

In Easter Sunday they will feel very happy as they remember the **resurrection** of Jesus when he defeated death and came back to life with a promise of eternal life.

Other people will focus on the secular celebration of Easter by giving Easter Eggs and looking out for the Easter Bunny. Even though this is the same time of year it can be celebrated very differently, although Christians may also give Easter Eggs but will always think about the death and resurrection of Jesus as the eggs symbolize the new life Jesus has brought as the Saviour.

Wonderful words

Community: a group of people who have something in common

World: the planet and everything and everyone in it

Psalm: a sacred song or hymn, often used in Christian and Jewish worship

Stewardship: the act of looking after and caring for something

Love: a strong feeling of affection or attachment to someone or something

Genesis: the first book of Moses for Jewish people and the first book of the Old Testament for Christians.

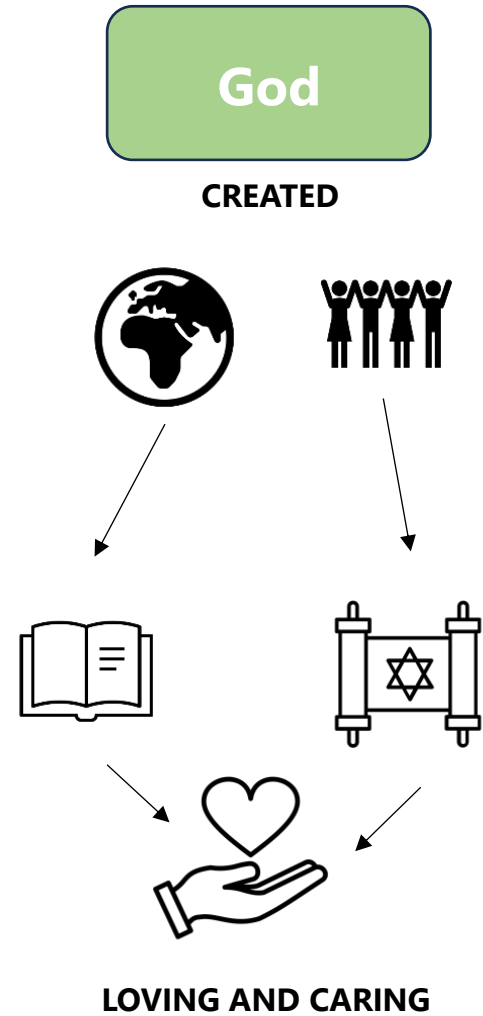
Religious: believing in a religion

Non-religious: not believing in a religion.

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

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

So how does it all work?



Important information

Christian and **Jewish** people believe that **God** created the **world** and the people in it. They believe that God created people in His Image. People can read this story in the book of **Genesis** which is the first book in the **Christian** Old Testament and the first Book of Moses for **Jewish** people.

This means that everybody on earth is different and unique, and we are all part of the worldwide **community**. Everyone who is **religious** or **non-religious** believes we should take care of the world and everyone in it.

In the Bible and the Torah there are many stories and teachings about how we should take care for planet, which is known as **stewardship** and how we should show **love** for each by looking after everyone. In the book of **Psalms**, Jewish people are told how much God loves and cares for them and in the Gospels, Christians are taught that God loves and cares for them as well.

People want to show how much they love and care for each other and they do this through helping other people by giving help like Mother Teresa did or by giving tzedakah. Many Jewish people believe the festival of Sukkot is about helping others just as God helped the Jewish people when they left Egypt.

Wonderful words

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

Prophet: a messenger sent from Allah

Shahadah: The Muslim declaration of faith. It includes the beliefs that Allah is the only God, and that Muhammad is Allah's messenger.

Ramadan: a month in the Muslim calendar when Muslims fast during daylight hours

Allah: God

Tawhid: the belief that there is only one God, and nothing is equal to God

Islam: submitting to the will of Allah.

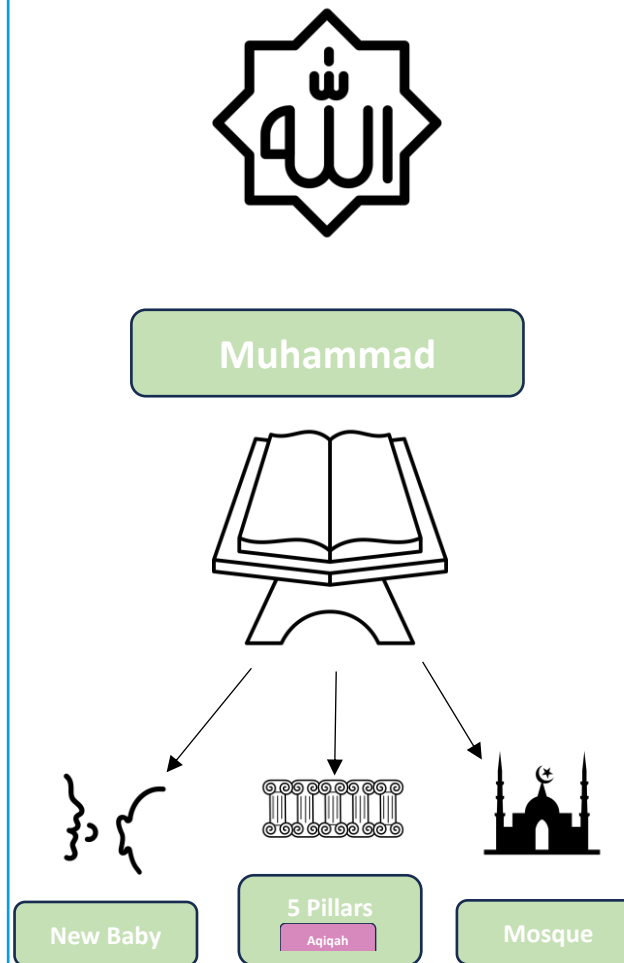
Salah: ritual prayer carried out 5 times per day, this is the 2nd Pillar of Islam

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

Hajj: Pilgrimage to Makkah to be made once in a life time if possible, this is the 5th Pillar of Islam

Sawm: Fasting from food or liquids during daylight hours in the month of Ramadan, this is the 4th Pillar of Islam

So how does it all work?



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Important information

Muslims believe there is only one God, and nothing is equal to God (**Tawhid**). There are no pictures of Allah instead attributes of are explored through the 99 names. Muslim will worship Allah through praying five times a day, known as **salah**, by reading the Qur'an and by going to the mosque. An important way for Muslims to worship Allah is to complete the 5 pillars. The **Shahadah** is the first pillar in Islam and many Muslims use the Shahadah to help them remember and think about Allah every day, it is whispered into a baby's ear after they are born and said by someone, usually in a mosque who wants to become a Muslim.

The Shahadah also tells Muslims that Muhammad is the **prophet** of Allah who received the Qur'an, the Muslim holy book from God. Muhammad received the first verses of the Qur'an on The Night of Power when he was on Mount Hira and for the rest of his life, he received messages from Allah which Muslims can read in the Qur'an.

The Qur'an also tells Muslims about the Five Pillars. Most Muslims will pray five times a day and this is known as **Salah**. Many Muslims will give money to the poor and this is usually 2.5% of their income and is known as **Zakat**. During the month of **Ramadan**, those Muslims who can, will go without food and water during daylight hours and this is known as **Sawm**.