

# Christianity

Key Vocabulary	
God	Christians believe God is the creator of the universe.
Jesus	The Son of God.
Bible	The Christian holy book. It has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament.
Genesis	The first book of the Bible in the Old Testament.
Gospels	Christians learn about the example that Jesus set and the teachings that he gave to his disciples and early followers in the Gospels. They speak of 'good news'.
Parable	A simple story used to teach a lesson, as told by Jesus in the Bible.

Festivals	
Lent	During Lent, Christians remember Jesus' time fasting and praying in the desert.
Easter	Easter tells the story of Jesus's crucifixion, his rising from the tomb three days later to the delight of his followers, and his ascension to heaven.
Christmas	Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth. The period leading up to Christmas is called Advent.



Pause and reflect:  
What do you think is wonderful about our world?

## Key Learning

**Christians** believe that God created the universe in 7 days. The **Creation story** is told in **Genesis**. Christians believe the creation story teaches them about God's power, creativity and orderliness. They also see it as their duty to **look after and care** for God's creation.

Jesus, who Christians believe is the Son of God, was born on **Christmas** Day. Christians believe that God sent Jesus to save/help the world and they look forward to Christmas as the time of his birth. **Advent**, four weeks before Christmas, is a time when Christians prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

**Easter** celebrates Jesus' death and **resurrection**. Christians believe that Jesus died for their **sins** and offered them **salvation**. Christians believe that Jesus taught them and showed them how to live our lives. We should forgive others just as God forgives us when we do something wrong.

**Baptism** is a ceremony that symbolises a commitment to living a life as a Christian. Jesus was baptised in the New Testament by John the Baptist. Holy water is put on baptised people by a church leader as a symbol of being cleansed and made ready for a new life for God.



## Key Vocabulary

Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam.
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God. Muslims believe that there is only one God called Allah.
Prophet	Special messengers sent from Allah.
Muhammad	The last prophet and the key prophet in Islam.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
Mosque	Muslim place of worship.
Qur'an	The holy book of Islam.
Mecca	In Saudi Arabia, it is where Muhammad was born
Calligraphy	Islamic art.



## Festivals

### Ramadan



Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The exact dates change every year as Islam uses a calendar based on the Moon. Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

During Ramadan, Muslims won't eat or drink during the hours of daylight. This is called fasting.

### Eid

Eid is the festival which closes Ramadan. Eid al-Fitr means 'The Festival of Breaking of the Fast'.

Muslims decorate their homes and take part in special worship and feasts. They thank Allah for giving them strength.



# Islam

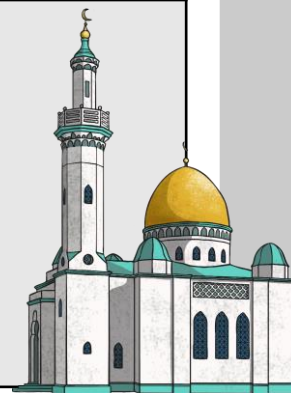
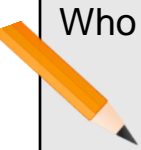
## Key Learning

Muslims believe that there is only one God called **Allah**. They believe Allah is the only ruler of the universe. The word 'Islam' means submission and obedience to Allah.

The Muslim holy book is called the **Qur'an**. Muslims believe that it is a record of the exact words that Allah said. They also believe it was revealed to the prophet **Muhammad** by the angel Gabriel during the **Night of Power**. Muhammad is so highly respected by Muslims that they say "peace be upon him" after his name is spoken.

The Muslim place of worship is called a **mosque**. Services are held in mosques every day. Mosques often have a domed roof. There are no images of people or animals in mosques. They are decorated with **patterns** and words from the Qur'an. Muslims take off their shoes before going into the mosque and wash before they pray. Muslims pray kneeling on the floor on a **prayer mat**, facing the direction of **Mecca**.

Pause and reflect:  
Who brings you peace?



### The Shahadah

The belief that there is no God but Allah and that Muhammad is his messenger.



### Salah

Praying five times a day.



### Zakat

Making an annual charitable donation to help the poor.



### Sawm

Fasting during the month of Ramadan.



### Hajj

Attending the pilgrimage to Makkah once in your lifetime.