

Key Question L2.2: Why is the Bible important for Christians today?

The **principal aim of RE** is to engage pupils in systematic enquiry into significant human questions which religion and worldviews address, so that they can develop the understanding and skills needed to appreciate and appraise varied responses to these questions, as well as develop responses of their own.

Strand / Questions/ Religions	Learning outcomes (intended to enable pupils to achieve end of key stage outcomes) :	Suggested content for learning: Teachers can select content from these examples, and add more of their own.
<p>Strand: Believing</p> <p>Recommended Y3</p> <p>Questions in this thread: <i>F1 Which stories are special and why?</i> 1.4 <i>What can we learn from sacred books?</i> 3.2 <i>Does living biblically mean obeying the whole Bible?</i></p> <p>Religious traditions and worldviews Christians</p>	<p>Teachers will enable pupils to be able to achieve some of these outcomes, as appropriate to their age and stage:</p> <p>Emerging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall and name some Bible stories that inspire Christians (A2). • Identify at least two ways Christians use the Bible in everyday life (B1). <p>Expected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make connections between stories in the Bible and what Christians believe about creation, the Fall and salvation (A2). • Give examples of how and suggest reasons why Christians use the Bible today (B1). • Describe some ways Christians say God is like, with examples from the Bible, using different forms of expression (A1). • Discuss their own and others' ideas about why humans do bad things and how people try to put things right (C3). <p>Exceeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how the Bible uses different kinds of stories to tell a big story (A2). • Suggest why Christians believe that God needs to rescue/save human beings (B2). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about sources of guidance and wisdom in their own and others' lives: who or what helps them to decide how to live? Introduce the Bible as a guide for Christians. • Give pupils a brief introduction to the Christian Bible – Old and New Testaments, divided into books, chapters and verses; different types of writing (illustrate with two examples e.g. histories; laws; poems; prayers; biographies (Gospels); letters) (be clear that what Christians call the 'Old Testament' is Jewish scripture too). • Introduce pupils to the idea that for Christians, the Bible tells them about what God is like. It also tells a 'big story' of God's dealings with human beings: God loves humans and created a wonderful world for people (creation); humans disobey God and go their own way ('the Fall'); God sends his Son, Jesus (incarnation) to save people – to bring them back to God (salvation). This story explains why Christians think they need to say sorry to God, why they try to follow Jesus, and why they are grateful to God for sending Jesus. It shows why Christians think the Bible is still important because it tells them about how to live, and why they should follow God. • Creation: Read Genesis 1 (use a lively children's version). Ask pupils to create dance/movement actions for each day, or art work to reflect the narrative; focus on what the narrative shows God is like – powerful, creative, good etc. • Find out what good and bad things people sometimes do. Explore idea of temptation: what things are tempting? Why do we give in sometimes? Do we sometimes blame others? Tell the story of Adam and Eve giving in to temptation (Genesis 3 – often called 'the Fall'). Does the way the people behave sound familiar? What lessons do pupils think Christians might learn from this story? Think about why Christians say people need to ask God to forgive them. • Explore creatively the Lost Coin, Sheep and Son stories (Luke 15) and how Christians interpret them as showing how much God wants 'sinners' to turn back to him; ask some Christians what they mean when they say Jesus saves or rescues them. • Look at some examples of how Christians use the Bible – for everyday prayer and Bible reading (often using notes), in Bible study groups; read aloud in church, with people talking about the meaning. What are the good things and the difficult things people might find from trying to follow this book in day-to-day life?