

## CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

The Holy book for Christians is the Bible.

There are two parts of the Bible i.e. The Old Testament and the New Testament.

There are 66 books in the Bible. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament.

**The first five books in the Bible are called Pentateuch / Torah/ The Law.**

### Books in the Old Testament:

1. **Genesis** – (Talks about creation, the fall, the patriarchs).
  2. **Exodus** – (Talks about the deliverance, the Decalogue, sинаic covenant)
  3. **Leviticus.**(Talks about collections of precepts concerning social living)
  4. **Numbers** – ( Talks about the census & wandering in the desert)
  5. **Deuteronomy** – (2<sup>nd</sup> law, contains the Decalogue).
  6. Joshua.
  7. Judges.
  8. Ruth.
  9. 1- Samuel.
  10. 2- Samuel.
  11. 1- Kings.
  12. 2-Kings.
  13. 1-Chronicles.
  14. 2-Chronicles.
  15. Ezeia.
  16. Nehemiah.
  17. Esther.
  18. Job.
  19. Psalms.
  20. Proverbs.
  21. Ecclesiastes.
  22. Songs of Solomon.
  23. **Isaiah.**
  24. **Jeremiah.**
  25. Lamentations.
  26. **Ezekiel.**
  27. **Daniel.**
  28. Hosea.
  29. Joel
  30. Amos.
  31. Obadiah.
  32. Jonah.
  33. Micah.
  34. Nahum.
- Major prophets because they wrote longer messages.  
**(JEDI)**
- (12) Minor prophets because they wrote shorter messages.

35. Habakuk.
36. Zephaniah.
37. Haggai.
38. Zechariah.
39. Malachi.

The first four books in the New Testament are called **Gospels**.

**They are:**

- i. Matthew** – Written by St Mathew.
- ii. Mark** – Written by St Mark.
- iii. Luke** – Written by St Luke.
- iv. John** – Written by St John.

**The first three gospels are called synoptic gospels meaning, 'they have a lot of similarities'.**

They talk about the ministry (teaching, miracles), suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

***Books in the New Testament:***

1. Mathew.
  2. Mark.
  3. Luke.
  4. John.
- } Gospels.

5. Acts – historical book written by St Luke.

6. Romans.
  7. 1-Corinthians.
  8. 2-Corinthians.
  9. Galatians.
  10. Ephesians.
  11. Philippians.
  12. Colossians.
  13. 1-Thessalonians.
  14. 2-Thessalonians.
  15. 1-Timothy.
  16. 2-Timothy.
  17. Titus.
  18. Philemon.
  19. Hebrews.
- } These epistles (letters) 14, were attributed to St Paul.

20. James.
  21. 1-Peter.
  22. 2-Peter.
  23. 1-John.
- } These 7 are also called Catholic or Universal epistles because they were not

24. 2-John addressed to a particular person or church..
25. 3-John.
26. Jude.
27. Revelation (Also known as Apocalypse). It was written by John. It talks about what is yet to come. It uses a lot of imagery hence it is very complicated.

**NB:**

**The first book in the Bible is Genesis.**

The last book in the Bible is **Revelation**.

**CREATION**

**Creation** is the story in the Bible that talks about the time when God created everything that exists on earth (Universe). The story of creation is found in the first book of the Bible, **Genesis** that was written by **Moses**. God created everything in **six days** and rested on the **seventh day**.

The order of creation:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Creation</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> day	Day and night (Light)
2 <sup>nd</sup> day	Sky/ Vault/ Heaven
3 <sup>rd</sup> day	Earth, Seas and Vegetation
4 <sup>th</sup> day	Sun, moon, stars.
5 <sup>th</sup> day	Sea creatures and birds.
6 <sup>th</sup> day	All types of land animals and Man (Adam)
7 <sup>th</sup> day	Rested.

Man was made the **peak of creation**. God made man in His own image.

God wanted man to:

- i. Praise Him.
- ii. Be in –charge of His creation.
- iii. Help Him make other people.

God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. He told them to eat anything except the fruit from the tree in the middle of the Garden of Eden.

But Satan/ The Serpent (Lucifer)/ snake tempted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit. She gave it to her husband, Adam who also ate the fruit and the two had disobeyed God.

**Punishments:**

God punished Adam, Eve and the snake for disobeying Him:

- i. The snake was to crawl on its stomach/ belly and eat dust.
- ii. Eve was to suffer pain during delivery and has to crave for man (Adam).
- iii. Adam was to sweat for food.
- iv. Adam and Eve were sent away from the Garden of Eden.
- v. God put enmity between Adam and the snake.
- vi. Death came into the world.
- vii. The woman to be ruled over by man.

Results / Effects of sin:

- i. Death.
- ii. Hatred.
- iii. Misery.
- iv. Wars.
- v. Fear.
- vi. Unhappiness (Loss of paradise).
- vii. Suffering.
- viii. Worries.

In order to restore His relationship (reconcile) with man, God sent His only son Jesus to die for man's sins i.e. God fulfilled His plan of salvation through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Man should always **ask for forgiveness (repent) after sinning,**

### **SOME IMPORTANT BIBLICAL PERSONALITIES:**

#### 1. **Adam.**

He was the first human to be created by God. He was made from dust. He was the summit of creation.

#### 2. **Eve.**

She was created from Adam's rib. She was created to help Adam.

#### 3. **Cain.**

He was the first born of Adam and Eve. He killed his brother, Abel, because God appreciated Abel's sacrifice more than his. Abel selected the best from his produce whereas Cain got the worst. God cursed Cain to become a wanderer. Adam later got another son called **Seth** to replace Abel.

#### 4. **Enoch.**

He lived in close fellowship with God. He was taken to heaven alive when he was 365 years old.

#### 5. **Noah.**

He was a righteous man who lived in a very sinful generation. God decided to destroy all the sinful people using a flood. God told Noah to construct an Ark to save a few lives. Every kind of living animal were put in the Ark in pairs, male and female. The floods took 150 days. Noah's Ark later landed on Mt. Ararat after the floodwaters had dried up.

Only 8 people survived the floods and they were all from Noah's family.

- i. Noah.
- ii. Noah's wife.
- iii. Shem. } Noah's sons.
- iv. Ham. }
- v. Japheth. }
- vi. Shem's wife.
- vii. Ham's wife.
- viii. Japheth's wife.

- ◆ From the top of Mt Ararat, Noah sent a raven to check whether the floods had dried but the raven didn't return.
- ◆ Noah then sent a dove. The dove found the floods still there and it came back.
- ◆ Noah sent the dove again but it only brought a branch.
- ◆ Noah sent the dove the 3<sup>rd</sup> time and it didn't return as the floods had by then dried up.
- ◆ God protected Noah using a rainbow and Noah thanked God by building an altar and sacrificing clean animals. Noah cursed his son Ham for looking at his nakedness.
- ◆ The symbol of God's covenant with Noah was a **rainbow**.
- ◆ **A covenant is an agreement between God and His people.**
- ◆ God made another covenant with Abraham.
- ◆ God also made a covenant with Moses on Mt Sinai.

## 6. **Abraham**.

He is referred to as the grandfather of all believers.

God tested Abraham's faith in Him in three different ways and he accepted to do every thing as had been told by God:

- i. He had accepted to sacrifice his only son Isaac God later told him to sacrifice a sheep.
- ii. He accepted to leave his homeland of Ur to go to the Promised Land when told by God.
- iii. He made a covenant of circumcision with God.

Abraham's wife was called **Sarah**. She had been barren for a long time so she gave her maidservant called **Hagar** to Abraham as a wife. Hagar gave birth to a baby boy called **Ishmael**. Sarah later also became pregnant and gave birth to a baby boy called **Isaac**. Hagar was sent away when Sarah got a baby.

Isaac married Rebecca and had two sons, **Esau** and **Jacob**.

Jacob founded the nation of Israel. He had 12 sons:

- i. Rueben. } Sons to Leah
- ii. Simeon. }
- iii. Levi. }
- Leah

- iv. Issachar
- v. Zebulan
- vi. Naphtali      sons  
to
- vii. Dan.      Bihah
- viii. Gad.      } Sons  
to
- ix. Asher.  
Zilpah
- x. Joseph.      } Sons  
to
- xi. Benjamin.      Rachel

## 7. **Joseph.**

Joseph was sold to Egypt as a slave by his own brothers because his father loved him more than the rest (jealousy) of his brothers. After successfully interpreting the king's dream about famine, he was put to be in-charge of food collection and distribution.

He was made governor (Chancellor) of the whole of Egypt (Genesis 41:<sup>37-45</sup>). The Pharaoh also gave Joseph a wife called Asenath, daughter of Potipher, priest of On. He was also given the name Zaphenath Pureah.

When his brothers came to Egypt looking for food during famine, he told them to go and bring the rest of the family members to Egypt to survive the famine. That's how the Israelites came to Egypt where they were enslaved for 400 years.

## 8. **Jacob.**

He was a crafty brother of Esau; both were sons of Isaac. He robbed his brother, Esau of the first born rights. Esau wanted to kill him but he fled to Mesopotamia where he married two daughters of his uncle Laban, called Leah and Rachael. His twelve sons became the twelve tribes of Israel. He wrestled with an angel of God and he was named '**Israel**'.

## 9. **Moses.**

He was born in Egypt at the time the Israelites were in slavery. The Pharaoh had ordered the nurses to kill all the baby boys of the Israelites in order to control the increase of the population of the Israelites.

His mother put him in a wax basket and placed him on the river. The daughter of the pharaoh picked him and he grew up in the pharaoh's palace. He was being looked after by his real mother who had been brought to look after him as a 'maid'. 'Moses' means 'pulled out of water'.

He killed an Egyptian who was mistreating the Israelites and fled to the Median desert. God later called him and sent him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

He is remembered because:

He could intercede for his people.

- i. He led the Israelites out of Egypt.
- ii. He received the Ten Commandments from God on Mt Sinai.
- iii. He died on Mt Nebo.
- iv. He was a great leader.

God chose him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt because:

1. He knew Egypt and the Egyptian language.
2. He was a good leader.
3. He was himself a Hebrew, so the Hebrews would respect/ obey him.

## 10. **Aaron.**

He was Moses' brother. He was Moses' spokesman in Egypt when they had gone to lead the Israelites out of Egypt because Moses was a stammerer. He died before he could reach the Promised Land.

## **11. Joshua.**

He succeeded Moses. He led the Israelites across river Jordan into the Promised Land. He and Caleb were the only ones who reached the Promised Land from Egypt. The rest had died in the wilderness (desert).

### **EXODUS.**

Ex – out, Odus – journey (departure). Exodus was the long journey of the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land of Canaan. The Israelites came to Egypt at the time of the famine but were enslaved in Egypt.

God sent Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. He was accompanied by Aaron as his spokesperson since Moses could not speak properly. The pharaoh and the Egyptians were not willing to let the Israelites go. Even Moses' miracle of turning the stick into a snake did not convince the pharaoh.

God then sent plagues (punishments) to force the Egyptians to let the Israelites go. Some of the punishments were:

- i. Water turned into blood.
- ii. Frogs
- iii. Mosquitoes
- iv. Swarm of flies (gnats).
- v. Death of Egyptian livestock
- vi. Boils.
- vii. Hailstorm.
- viii. Swarms of locusts.
- ix. Darkness.
- x. Death of the first born males of the Egyptians.

NB: God told the Israelites to smear blood on their doors so that the death angel does not kill their children. So the death angel did not kill the first born males of the Israelites whose doors were smeared with a red cross (Sign). The death angel simply 'PASSED OVER' thus pass over.

The Israelites finally left. They were guided by a **pillar of cloud** at **day time** and a **pillar of fire** at **night**. They were led by **Moses**. When they reached the Red Sea, God told Moses to strike the water with his stick. The water separated and the Israelites were able to cross the sea.

The Egyptians who were following the Israelites with the aim of taking them back were closing in on them. As the Israelites were crossing the Egyptians also started crossing. But God told Moses to raise up his stick and the water closed back engulfing the Egyptians.

They suffered hunger on the way but God sent food from heaven called **Manna**. God called Moses to **Mt Sinai** and gave him two stone tablets containing the **Ten Commandments**. They



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were in two stone tablets because the first three are man versus God and the last seven are man versus man. God later called Moses to the top of Mt Nebo, showed him the Promised Land and died. Aaron also died before reaching the Promised Land. Moses did not reach the Promised Land because instead of ordering the rock, he struck it twice in order for the water to gush out.

**Joshua** then led the Israelites across R. Jordan into the Promised Land. The journey took 40 years.

## **THE TOWER OF BABEL.**

Some people wanted to make names for themselves by building the Tower of Babel. They also wanted to reach heaven.

God hindered the building of the tower by:

- i. Making the builders of the tower to speak different tongues.
- ii. Scattering the builders of the tower all over the world.

## THE LEADERS OF ISRAEL

### **Judges:**

#### **1. Deborah:**

She was the first prophetess to be recorded in the Bible during the time of the judges. She joined Barak to overthrow Sisera. (Judges 4-5). He was the champion of Israel during the war against the Philistines.

#### **2. Gideon:**

He defeated the Medianites with a small army of 300 men.

#### **3. Samson:**

He had power in his hair but he lost his power when his hair had been cut off. He died with his enemies by pulling down the house when his hair had started to grow up.

#### **4. Samuel:**

He grew up from the temple and became a great prophet who anointed two kings of Israel, Saul and David. He was both a judge and a prophet. He was the last ruler of the Israelites among the judges.

### **Kings:**

## 5. **Saul:**

He was the first king of Israel after the judges. He disobeyed God and had a miserable end of his life. A spirit haunted him for a long time.

## 6. **David:**

He was Israel's 2<sup>nd</sup> king who founded the royal line from which the Messiah was finally born. He was the father of King Solomon. He composed many of the psalms in the Bible. He killed the giant of the Philistines called **Goliath**. 'David' means 'beloved of God'.

## 7. **Solomon:**

He was the wisest king of Israel. He built the temple of God at Jerusalem. He composed many wise sayings in the Bible. He disobeyed God by marrying many foreign women and God punished Israel for this sin by making the kingdom split.

### ***The prophets (messengers) of God***

God used to send messages to His people through various ways:

- i. Prophets.
- ii. Visions.
- iii. Angels.

### **1. Elijah.**

'Elijah' means 'God is Lord' or 'My God is Yahweh' or 'God is my Lord'.  
Elijah performed many miracles:

- i. He called down fire from heaven at Mt Carmal.
- ii. He raised a dead boy.
- iii. He caused drought for three years by prayer.
- iv. He dried-up R. Jordan.
- v. He ended the three-year drought by prayer.
- vi. He also killed over three hundred false prophets of Baal.
- vii. He preached '**true worship and trust**'.
- viii. He was taken to heaven alive.

### **2. Elisha**

He succeeded Elijah. Elisha means 'God is salvation'.  
He performed many miracles:

- i. He cured Naaman's leprosy.
- ii. He made an iron axe float on water facing up.
- iii. He raised up a dead man and boy.
- iv. He increased a widow's oil.
- v. He called the bears from the bush to eat up the 42 youths that had jeered him.
- vi. He preached '**against injustice, immorality and misuse of power**'.

### 3. **Isaiah.**

'Isaiah' means 'Yahweh (God) is salvation'.

He preached about the '**coming of the Messiah**'. His preaching brought hope to people and called him 'the prophet of comfort'

### 4. **Jeremiah.**

'Jeremiah' means 'Yahweh (God) lifts up'. He preached '**hope for the future and the New covenant**'.

### 5. **Ezekiel.**

'Ezekiel' means 'God strengthens'. He was a prophet of the Jews taken captive by king Nabuchadnezzar of Babylon. He preached '**obedience to God and hope for the future**'.

### 6. **Hosea.**

'Hosea' means 'deliverance' or 'God has saved'.

He preached '**forgiveness and hope**'.

### 7. **Joel.**

'Joel' means 'Yahweh is God'. He preached '**repentance to the people of Judea**'.

### 8. **Amos.**

'Amos' means 'strong burden or Burden bearer.'

He preached '**justice/ condemned injustice and exploitation**'. He fed on honey and locusts in the desert. He foretold the doom that would befall the people of Israel if they did not change.

### 9. **Jonah.**

'Jonah' means 'pigeon/ dove'.

He didn't want to go and preach to the people of Nineveh as God had told him. As he was running away from God, he was thrown into the sea and was swallowed by a big fish. He pleaded to God and the fish vomited him out after 3 days.. He preached '**judgement**'. He preached repentance to the people of Nineveh.

### 10. **Micah.**

'Micah' means 'poor'. He preached '**social justice**'.

### 11. **Malachi.**

'Malachi' means 'my messenger '. He preached '**obedience to God**'.

### 12. **John the Baptist.**

- i. He preached '**repentance and prepared people for the Messiah**'.
- ii. He baptised Jesus Christ on River Jordan.
- iii. He was the last and greatest prophet.

The people who were taken to heaven alive:

- i. Elijah.
- ii. Enoch.

iii.

***Other personalities:***

**a. Daniel.**

Daniel means 'God is my judge' (I Chronicles 3:1). He was thrown into the den of lions but was not harmed because of his faith in God.

**b. Zacchaeus**

'Zacchaeus' means 'pure' (Luke 19:1). He was a rich man who was hated by many people because he was a tax collector. Being a short man, he climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus who was in the middle of the crowd. He took Jesus to his home and confessed all his sins.

***Special events on mountains:***

NO	MOUNTAIN	SPECIAL EVENT
1	Mt Sinai (Mt Horeb)	i. Where Moses received the 10 commandments from God. ii. Where people worshipped a golden calf. iii. Where Moses saw a burning bush that was not getting burnt. iv. Where Elijah hid when Jezebel wanted to kill him.
2	Mt Morriah	Where Abraham took Isaac to sacrifice. The site of Solomon's temple.
3	Mt Nebo	Where Moses died.
4	Mt Olives	Where Jesus ascended into heaven.
5	Mt Carmel	i. Where Elijah called down fire from heaven. ii. Scene of Elijah's contest with Baal's prophets.
6	Mt Ararat	i. Where Noah's Ark settled after the flood. ii. Today, it's an extinct volcano.

***Special events on places:***

NO	PLACE	SPECIAL EVENT
1	Bethlehem	Where Jesus was born.
2	Nazareth	Where Jesus grew up
3	Cana	Where Jesus changed water into wine.
4	Canaan	The promised land where the Israelites from Egypt were led.
5	Akeldama	Means 'field of blood'. Where Judas Iscariot committed suicide.
6	Jerusalem	Where the apostles received the holy spirit.
7	Gathesamane	Where Jesus was praying and sweating blood before his arrest.
8	Golgotha/ Calvary	Means 'place of the skull'. Where Jesus was crucified.
9	L. Galilee	i. Where Jesus walked on water. ii. Home area of Jesus and a number of disciples. iii. It was a centre of most of Jesus' ministry.

***Names and their meanings:***

NO	NAME	MEANING
1	Adam	Red earth/ soil/ human being.
2	Eve	One who is living/ life giver.
3	Cain	To get something / possession/ to acquire.
4	Abel	Mourning or weeping (breath or vapour) (Gen. 4;2)
5	Enoch	Dedicated
6	Abraham	Father of many/ multitude
7	Noah	Consolation/ comfort/ rest.
8	Enosh	Weakling
9	Sarah	Mother of many
10	Japheth	Expansion / widely spread (may God enlarge).
11	Ham	Black and crafty
12	Shem	Celebrated/ name/ renown.
13	David	Beloved of God
14	Elijah	God is Lord/ My God is lord.
15	Elishah	Sight / face of God.-God is salvation.
16	Isaiah	Salvation of the Lord.-Yahweh is salvation.
17	Jeremiah	Exalted of God/ Yahweh lifts up.
18	Ezekiel	God is powerful/ God strengthens.
19	Hosea	Deliverance./ Yahweh has saved.
20	Joel	Lord God/ Yahweh is God.
21	Amos	Strong burden/ burden bearer.
22	Jonah	Pigeon / dove
23	Micah	Poor/ like Yahweh.
24	Malachi	Messenger of the Lord/ my messenger/ angel.
25	Peter	Rock
26	Paul	A changed person/ little.
27	Emmanuel	God with us
28	Israel	He struggles with God/ God perseveres
29	Moses	Pulled out of water/ drawn out/ born.
30	Christ	The Anointed one / Messiah
31	Isaac	He laughs/ laughing.
32	Jacob	He cheats/ supplanter

**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS:**

1. *Worship no other god but me.*
2. *Do not make yourself any images and worship them.*
3. *Do not use my name for any evil purposes.*
4. *Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy.*

} *God vs man*

5. *Respect your parents (father and mother).*
6. *Do not kill.*
7. *Do not commit adultery.*
8. *Do not steal.*
9. *Do not accuse anyone falsely.*
10. *Do not covet another man's wife, house etc (property).*

*Man vs man*

- ◆ 'Do not commit adultery' protects married Christians from sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/ AIDS.
- ◆ 'Respect your parents' brings us closer to our parents.
- ◆ 'Do not covet another person's property' makes us contented with what we have.

Jesus summarised the Ten Commandments into two: (Mk 12<sup>28-34</sup>, Mt 22<sup>36-40</sup>, John 13:34)

- i. *Love your God with all your heart, soul and mind.*
- ii. *Love your neighbour as you love yourself.*

***NB: A neighbour is a person in need or a person who assists one in need.***

### **THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST:**

When **angel Gabriel** announced to **Virgin Mary** that she would conceive and give birth to Jesus, Mary could not believe that she would conceive as she was a virgin.

Mary anyway conceived as had been said by the angel and when she was about to deliver, Augustus Caesar, the then Roman emperor, announced a population census, so Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem, their home village (town) for the census. Joseph was the foster father of Jesus. When they reached Bethlehem, they found the place full and only managed to get space in the kraal (cowshed).

At night, Mary gave birth to Jesus that was in 6 BC. The **shepherds** praised baby Jesus. More visitors came from the East. They were called the **Three wise men (Magi)**. The **6<sup>th</sup> of January** when the Magi visited Jesus is called **Epiphany**. They were guided by a **star**.

They brought gifts to baby Jesus:

- i. gold.
- ii. myrrh.
- iii. frankincense.

When King Herod heard that a new king (Jesus) had been born, he wanted to kill him but he could not find him so he ordered for the killing of all baby boys with the aim of killing baby Jesus. The angel told Joseph and Mary to flee to Egypt with the baby. They escaped to Egypt and came back after the death of King Herod. Jesus was circumcised when he was only 8 days old. Jesus grew up at **Nazareth**. He became a **carpenter** like his foster father, Joseph.

### **The baptism of Jesus**

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When Jesus was 30 years old, He went to John the Baptist to be baptised. He was baptised by John the Baptist on River Jordan.

During the baptism of Jesus:

- i. The Holy Spirit came to the head of Jesus in form of a dove.
- ii. A loud voice was heard from heaven saying, '***This is my only son with whom I am well pleased***'.
- iii. Heaven opened.

***Types of baptism:***

- i. Baptism by water.
- ii. Baptism by the Holy Spirit.
- iii. Baptism by fire.

***The temptation of Jesus:***

After His baptism, the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the desert to fast for 40 days and nights. At the end of the fasting, the devil tempted Jesus:

- i. The devil told Jesus to change stones into food.
- ii. The devil told Jesus to jump down from the top of the temple telling Him that the angels of God would protect Him and He would not be hurt.
- iii. The devil told Jesus to bow down and worship him so that he gives Him all the land.

Jesus rejected all the temptations as they were offered by the devil. Christians also fast for 40 days during a period called **Lent**. Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday** and ends on **Holy Saturday (Easter vigil)**.

***Things that Christians are supposed to do during Lent:***

- i. Praying earnestly (intensive praying).
- ii. Being charitable i.e. performing acts /work of mercy (good deeds) towards others e.g. helping the poor, the needy and visiting the sick etc.
- iii. Fasting (leaving/ dropping/ shunning bad habits) / mortification (foregoing some of the things one likes most as a way of sacrificing for God (self sacrificing)).

***Things that Christians are not supposed to do during Lent:***

- i. Not to break the Decalogue (The Ten Commandments)
- ii. Not to wed during Lent. ( Catholics mainly)
- iii. No singing the Gloria (Glory to God). (Catholics mainly).
- iv. No eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on every Friday during Lent (Catholics mainly).
- v. No holding (making) feasts for saints during Lent. (Catholics mainly)

***How to avoid temptations:***

- i. By constant prayer.
- ii. By reading the Bible.
- iii. By singing hymns.

iv. By keeping yourself busy (Avoiding being idle).

## **THE TEACHING OF JESUS:**

When Jesus was 30 years, He started teaching. He called twelve people called the apostles to assist Him.

***The Twelve Apostles of Jesus:*** (Mark 3<sup>15-19</sup>, Mathew 10<sup>1-4</sup>, Luke 6<sup>12-16</sup>)

1. Simon Peter (He was crucified upside down in Rome).
2. Andrew.
3. James.
4. John.
5. Philip.
6. Judas Iscariot.
7. Bartholomew (Nathanael).
8. Simon the Zealot (patriot)
9. James son of Alphaeus.
10. Thomas – ( was killed in India while preaching)
11. Mathew (Levi) – (He was a tax collector and was murdered in Ethiopia)
12. Thaddaeus.

NB: **Matthias** replaced **Judas Escariot** after Judas has Escariot had committed suicide.  
Some important apostles:

- ◆ **Apostles** were the twelve people selected by Jesus to help Him in His teaching.
- ◆ Disciples are the followers of Jesus.
- ◆ The apostles were at first known as the disciples.

### Reasons why some apostles are remembered:

NO	APOSTLE	WHY REMEMBERED
1	Simon Peter	i. He was the first apostle to be called by Jesus.
		ii. He denied Jesus 3 times before the cock crowd.
		Iii He became the leader of the apostles after the ascension of Jesus
		iv. He cut off the ear of Malchus.



2	Thomas	He doubted the resurrection of Jesus. He was a twin.
3	Judas Iscariot	i. He betrayed Jesus Christ for 30 pieces of silver. ii. He committed suicide at Akeldama after betraying Jesus.
4	Matthias	He replaced Judas Iscariot.
5	John	i. He was the most beloved apostle of Jesus. ii. He was the first apostle to reach the empty tomb of Jesus. iii. He took the mother of Jesus to his house after the death of Jesus.
6 & 7	John and Peter	They healed a lame man at the beautiful gate

(Saul) Paul helped to spread Christianity in the Roman Empire but he was murdered in Rome. Paul is usually referred to as the 'apostle of the Gentiles'. He wrote 14 letters or epistles in the New Testament.

Christianity spread quickly in the Roman Empire because:

- i. There was easy means of communication (good roads).
- ii. There was enough peace at the Roman Empire at one time.
- iii. Some Emperors converted to Christianity.

The first Roman Emperor to become a Christian was Constantine. He allowed freedom of worship in the Roman Empire A cross was worn on the neck for secret identification as Christians.

Kabaka Mwanga of Buganda also persecuted Christians. He ordered for the burning to death of 37 Christians at Namugongo on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1886. They are now known as martyrs. The first martyr according to the Bible was Stephen. He was stoned to death and Paul witnessed this murder

*What we learn from the Uganda martyrs:*

- i. To have strong faith in God.
- ii. To have courage.
- iii. To have hope.
- iv. To have love.
- v. To be united.

*How Jesus showed love to His followers:*

- i. He healed the sick ( blind, lepers, deaf, paralytic, woman with haemorrhage).
- ii. He fed the hungry.
- iii. He raised the dead.
- iv. He made the lame walk.
- v. He died for our sins.

***Dead people raised by Jesus:***

- i. Lazarus.
- ii. Daughter of Jairus.
- iii. Widow's son at Nain (Luke 7:11-15).

**PARABLES:**

**Parables** were stories that Jesus used to make people understand His teaching.

**Some parables used by Jesus:**

NO	THE PARABLE OF	LESSONS LEARNT
1	THE GOOD SAMARITAN (LK 10 25-37)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. To help the needy (everyone in need is a neighbour).</li> <li>ii. To have pity for the suffering people.</li> <li>iii. To love others as we love our selves.</li> </ul>
2	<b>THE LOST SHEEP</b> (LK 15 1-7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Jesus has great love for sinners.</li> <li>ii. Jesus seeks sinners to bring them to Himself.</li> <li>iii. It's a great joy to God for sinners to turn back to Him.</li> </ul>
3	<b>THE RICH FOOL</b> (LK 12 13-24)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. We should put our trust in God rather than in our possessions.</li> <li>ii. Possessions/ riches shouldn't lead us away from keeping God's commands.</li> </ul>
4	THE PRODIGAL SON (LK 14 11-32)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. To obey our parents.</li> <li>ii. To forgive those who do us wrong.</li> <li>iii. To ask for forgiveness for our sins.</li> <li>iv. To reconcile with people with whom we've had problems.</li> </ul>
5	<b>THE SOWER</b> (MT 13 1-9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. To have faith in God.</li> <li>ii. To have endurance.</li> <li>iii. To have perseverance.</li> <li>iv. We face different challenges as we keep God's word.</li> </ul>
6	THE RICH MAN AND THE POOR LAZARUS (LK 16 19-31)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. We should all prepare for eternal life when we are still on earth.</li> <li>ii. Our wealth can't take us to heaven.</li> <li>iii. We should use our riches for the good of others.</li> </ul>
7	<b>THE 10 VIRGINS</b> (MT 25 1-13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. On the return of Jesus non-believers will be locked out of the kingdom of God.</li> <li>ii. Believers will be expecting Jesus to take them to heaven.</li> <li>iii. All the time we should be prepared to meet God.</li> </ul>
8	<b>THE THIEF AT NIGHT</b> (MT 24 42-44)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. No one knows when Jesus will return.</li> <li>ii. We should always be prepared for the return of Jesus.</li> </ul>
9	<b>THE TWO SONS</b> (MT 21 28-32)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Confession that is not followed by action is useless before God.</li> </ul>
10	THE MUSTERED SEED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Symbolises the church's future external growth.</li> </ul>

11	THE WEEDS	i. In every society, there are bad/ wicked people living together. ii. God loves both the good people and the sinners. iii. We should learn to tolerate / put up with sinners.
12	THE YEAST	i. An image of growth. Because the kingdom of God is associated with an inner growth of an individual as well as of society, it is a here and now experience open to all men and women i.e. individuals (Christians) and the church are expected to grow in faith and good moral life. ii.

***How we can show love to other people:***

- i. By giving alms.
- ii. By visiting the sick.
- iii. By paying the ransom.
- iv. By sharing with them.

***Miracles performed by Jesus:***

- i. He changed water into wine at a wedding feast in Cana.
- ii. He raised the dead e.g. Lazarus.
- iii. He walked on water on L. Galilee.
- iv. He calmed a storm on a lake.
- v. He made the blind see.
- vi. He fed 5,000 people with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish.

***Why Jesus performed miracles:***

- i. To show that He was the Son of God.
- ii. To show the power of God.
- iii. To make His followers believe in what he was saying.
- iv. To show God's love and mercy to His people.

***Jesus teaches about prayer:***

Jesus taught His followers the **Lord's prayer**.

***Requests made in the Lord's prayer:***

- i. To give us food (our daily bread).
- ii. To forgive our sins.
- iii. Not to take us to temptation (protect us from evil).
- iv. To deliver us from sin (guide us).
- v. God's will be done

vi. God's kingdom to come

***Why hymns are sung during prayer:***

- i. To praise God.
- ii. To show happiness to God.
- iii. To thank God.
- iv. To ask for forgiveness, help etc.

**TRINITY**

**God exists in Trinity i.e. Three divine persons in one:**

- i. God the father.**
- ii. God the Son.**
- iii. God the Holy Spirit.**

***The seven sacraments:***

<b>NO</b>	<b>SACRAMENT</b>	<b>IMPORTANCE</b>
1	Baptism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Makes one a member of God's family</li><li>ii. Cleanses the original sin.</li></ul>
2	Confirmation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Strengthens one's faith.</li><li>ii. Makes one a true witness of Christ and a mature member of the church.</li></ul>
3	<b>Reconciliation</b>	Reconciles man with God.
4	Holy Eucharist	Reminds us of the death of Jesus Christ for our sins.
5	Holy Matrimony	Unites man and woman as husband and wife.
6	Holy Orders.	Ordains one into priesthood. (for Catholics only)
7	Anointing the sick	Consoles, heals and gives courage to the sick. (for Catholics only)

***Main Christian sects in Uganda:***

- i. Protestant (Anglican) Church.** - Currently led by Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi.
- ii. Catholic Church** - currently led by His Eminence Cardinal Emmanuel Wamala.
- iii. Orthodox Church** – currently led by Metropolitan Jonah Lwanga.
- iv. Seventh Day Adventists (SDA)** – Currently led by Pastor Kyambadde.
- v. The Presbyterian church** –
- vi. Pentecostals e.g.**

- i. Rubaga miracle centre.
- ii. Namirembe Christian church fellowship.
- iii. Victory Christian church.
- iv. Latter day saints. etc

***Some religions and their founders:***

- i. Christianity: Jesus
- ii. Islam: Prophet Muhammad.
- iii. Buddhism: Gautama Budha.

THE ARREST OF JESUS

When Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus, he led Roman soldiers to arrest Him in the garden of Gethsemane. He was tried before the courts of Herod and Pilate. The Jews had a tradition of releasing one prisoner Both Herod and Pilate found Jesus innocent but Pilate later handed Jesus over to the Jews who wanted Him killed. He was given a cross to carry. A man called Simon of Cyrene was forced to help Jesus to carry the cross on the way to Golgotha. He was crucified at Golgotha with two other robbers. The Friday when Jesus was crucified is now celebrated as Good Friday.

As Jesus died on the cross, the following happened:

- i. The curtain in the temple split into two.
- ii. The earth was covered with darkness.
- iii. There was an earthquake/ tremour.
- iv. Rocks split.
- v. Some holy people who had died (for 3 hours) resurrected.

*Some of the people present during the crucifixion of Jesus included:*

- i. Mary, the mother of Jesus.
- ii. Mary Magdalene.
- iii. Mary the wife of Cleopas.
- iv. John the beloved disciple.(John 19: 25-26)

In the evening, Joseph of Arimathea asked for Jesus' body and buried it with the assistance of Nicodemus.

Jesus resurrected on Sunday, now celebrated as Easter Sunday. The first people to see the empty tomb of Jesus were Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The first apostle to see Jesus after the resurrection was Simon. The first person to see Jesus after the resurrection was Mary Magdalene, whom Jesus had healed of demons.

Jesus stayed for 40 days after the resurrection then He took His apostles to Mt Olives where He ascended into heaven. That day is now celebrated as the Ascension Day. He told Simon Peter to look after His church (His followers). He promised to send His apostles a helper (The Holy Spirit, advocate, paraclete, and comforter). The apostles were in the upper room.

The apostles later received the Holy Spirit on Pentecost day when they were in Jerusalem. After receiving the Holy Spirit:

- i. Started preaching the Good News (The news about the salvific death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the word of God).
- ii. Started to speak different languages (tongues).
- iii. They performed some miracles.

The church teaching today is guided by:

- i. The Bible and the Holy Spirit.
- ii. The tradition especially by the Roman Catholic church and the Orthodox church

### ***Symbols of the Holy Spirit***

*Dove*

*Wind*

*Fire*

*Water*

### **Gifts of the Holy Spirit:**

There are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:

- i. Wisdom.
- ii. Understanding.
- iii. Counsel.
- iv. Courage.
- v. Knowledge.
- vi. Piety (Devotion).
- vii. Holy fear for God.

### **Fruits of the Holy Spirit:**

Some of the fruits of the Holy Spirit are:

- i. Kindness.
- ii. Joy.
- iii. Love.
- iv. Patience.
- v. Peace.
- vi. Happiness.
- vii. Faithfulness.
- viii. Gentility.
- ix. Obedience.

- x. Honesty.
- xi. Generosity.
- xii. harmony
- xiii. Self control.

NB: A church is a group of the followers of Jesus Christ.

Why the Jews hated Jesus:

- i. He preached against their evil practices.
- ii. He said he was the king of the Jews.
- iii. He said that all people were equal before God.
- iv. He said if they broke the temple, He would rebuild it in three days.

**NB: INRI is Latin for 'Jesus of Nazareth, king of the Jews'**

Other groups of people who hated Jesus and why:

**a) Pharisees:**

He criticized the elaborate practice of religious observance.

**b) Scribes:**

He assumed a moral authority without being learned in the law.

**c) Priests:**

He antagonized them because he interfered with practices in the temple.

**d) Patriots:**

He disappointed them because he refused to deny the emperor's claim to taxes.

**e) Romans:**

He made them suspicious because he allowed people to claim Him a deliverer.

Important Christian days:

<u>NO</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>IMPORTANCE</u>
1	Christmas day	When Jesus was born
2	Palm Sunday.	When Jesus entered Jerusalem triumphantly, gloriously.
3	Ash Wednesday	When Christians begin fasting (Lent begins)
4	Good Friday	When Jesus was crucified
5	Easter Sunday	When Jesus resurrected (Rose from the dead)
6	Ascension day	When Jesus went (ascended ) into heaven
7	Pentecost day	When the Apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Contributions of the church:

- i. It has established medical centres (hospitals).
- ii. It has established education centres (schools).

- iii. It has established orphanage centres.
- iv. It has helped in the moral rehabilitation of the youth and also the adults.
- v. It has contributed to the constitutional making.
- vi. It has established financial institutions (banks) e.g. CERUDEB (Centenary bank).
- vii. It has assisted people in getting loans from rich countries.
- viii. It caters for the widows, elderly and destitute etc.
- ix. It has established developmental projects like carpentry, brick & tile making, printing press and `send a cow ` etc.

#### Similarities between Christianity and Islam:

- i. Both Christians and Muslims believe in one God.
- ii. Both Christians and Muslims believe in holy books.
- iii. Both Christians and Muslims believe in angels.
- iv. Both Christians and Muslims believe in prophets.
- v. Both Christians and Muslims believe in life after death.
- vi. Both Christians and Muslims believe in the day of judgement (heaven & hell).
- vii. Both Christians and Muslims have special days for worship.
- viii. Both Christians and Muslims fast.
- ix. Both Christianity and Islam are foreign religions.

#### Differences between Christianity and Islam:

- i. The holy book for Christians is the Bible whereas the holy book for Muslims is the Qur'an.
- ii. Christians pray in the church whereas Muslims pray in the mosque.
- iii. The Christian's special day for prayers is Sunday whereas that of Muslims is Friday.
- iv. Christians fast for 40 days whereas muslims fast for 29 or 30 days.
- v. Christianity allows men to marry only one wife whereas islam allows men to marry upto four wives.
- vi. Christians men pray together with their women whereas in islam men and women sit separatly.
- vii. Christians believe that Jesus is the son of God whereas muslims believe he was only a prophet.
- viii. Christians enter the church in shoes whereas muslims remove shoes before they enter the mosque.
- ix. Christians make optional pilgrimage whereas muslims make obligatory pilgrimage.
- x.

#### Organizations that work as good Samaritans:

- i. The Uganda Red Cross.
- ii. Uganda women's effort to save orphans (UWESO).
- iii. United Nations children's international emergency fund (UNICEF).
- iv. Uganda national expanded program on immunization (UNEPI).
- v. Christian children's fund (CCF).



- vi. World vision international.
- vii. Save the children's fund (SCF).
- viii. The AIDS support organization (TASO).

#### The Red Cross:

The Red Cross carries out humanitarian services during peace and war and in the event of disasters like floods, famine, drought, earthquakes etc.

The Red Cross provides the following:

- i. Medical services.
- ii. Education services.
- iii. Relief food.
- iv. Shelter (tents).
- v. Clothes.
- vi. Re-uniting separated people.
- vii. Re-settling refugees etc.

#### Why the church teaches against abortion:

- i. It kills the unborn.
- ii. It can lead to the death of the mother.
- iii. It encourages immorality (promiscuity).
- iv. It brings psychological trauma.
- v. It brings hatred between husband and wife.
- vi. It does not follow God's natural order (arrangement).

#### MARRIAGE:

Marriage is a legal agreement (relationship) between a man and a woman to become husband and wife.

God wants us to marry one wife (monogamy).

#### Types of marriage:

- i. Customary marriage.
- ii. Religious marriage.
- iii. Civil marriage.

#### Reasons why people marry:

- i. To bear children (procreation).
- ii. To have company.
- iii. To have protection in case of danger.

#### Conditions to be considered before choosing the right marriage partner:

- i. Family approval.
- ii. Mutual cultural background.
- iii. Good reputation.
- iv. Good family background.
- v. Boy should be older than the girl.
- vi. Boy should be better educated or equal.
- vii. Boy should be richer or equal

Responsibilities of each partner for a successful marriage:

- i. To endure hardships together and enjoy fortune together.
- ii. To maintain permanent relationship.
- iii. To develop special loyalty to and from each other with mutual assurance to give each other first consideration.
- iv. To raise children together and assist each other to fulfill the responsibilities of parenthood.
- v. To be faithful to each other (fidelity).

Responsibilities of each partner to children:

- i. To provide all the basic needs of life such as food, shelter, medical care, etc.
- ii. To protect their children from harm.
- iii. To show equal love to all their children.
- iv. To bring up their children to adulthood.
- v. To instruct their children according to culture and religion.
- vi. To supervise their children's activities.

Factors that lead to broken families:

- i. Being unfaithful.
- ii. Disobedience.
- iii. Lack of love.
- iv. Dishonesty.
- v. Lack of forgiveness.
- vi. Drunkenness.
- vii. Laziness.
- viii. Poverty.
- ix. Disease.
- x. Witchcraft.
- xi. Cruelty
- xii. Lack of respect.
- xiii. Interference from parents/ relatives etc.

How to protect true marriage from breaking:

- i. By avoiding adultery (being faithful to each other).
- ii. By loving each other.

- iii. By obeying each other.
- iv. By respecting each other.
- v. By being kind to each other.
- vi. By being honest / sincere to each other.

Qualities of a good Christian/ parent / leaders:

- i. Should be loving.
- ii. Should be patient.
- iii. Should be polite.
- iv. Should be obedient.
- v. Should be kind.
- vi. Should be honest.
- vii. Should be forgiving.
- viii. Should be trustworthy.
- ix. Should be respectful.

Qualities that Christians copy from Jesus:

- i. Love.
- ii. Kindness.
- iii. Patience.
- iv. Obedience.
- v. Humility.
- vi. Honesty.
- vii. Mercy.
- viii. Faithfulness.
- ix. Forgiveness.
- x. Perseverance etc.

How pupils can avoid HIV/ AIDS:

- i. By abstaining from sex.
- ii. By practising protected sex (if any).
- iii. By not sharing sharp piercing instruments.

Problems caused by AIDS:

- i. Death.
- ii. Misery.
- iii. Suffering.
- iv. Hatred.
- v. Orphanage.
- vi. Widows.
- vii. Widowers.
- viii. Poverty
- ix. School dropouts.
- x. Enmity etc.

*How to help AIDS victims:*

- i. By counseling them.
- ii. By giving them relief aid eg food clothes etc.
- iii. By giving them medical care.
- iv. By adopting some of their children.
- v. By giving them some financial assistance..

*Roles of TASO:*

TASO cares for HIV / AIDS victims by:

- i. Counseling them so that they don't spread it and should live positively with it.
- ii. By providing them with nutritious food.
- iii. By treating the signs of HIV / AIDS e.g. skin rash.
- iv. Testing for HIV / AIDS.

How to use our senses to serve others:

Feeling (touch):

- i. To shake hands to show love to others.
- ii. To feel other people's temperature and help accordingly.

Smelling:

- i. To appreciate the good smell around.
- ii. To distinguish between the good and the bad smell and act accordingly.

Seeing:

- i. To appreciate the beauty of God's creation.
- ii. To see those in need and help.

Tasting:

- i. To appreciate the goodness of food and drinks.

Hearing:

- i. To respond to the call of others and help accordingly.
- ii. Hearing the word of God and passing to/ sharing with others.

How to use God's gifts on our bodies:

Hands:

- i. To serve others.
- ii. To care for God's creation.
- iii. To do our work and to help others with their work.

Eyes:

- i. To care for God's creation.
- ii. To serve others eg the blind.
- iii. To admire God's creation.

iv. To protect others and ourselves.

Ears:

- i. To serve others by hearing their call / requests.
- ii. To admire God's love (to listen to God's word).

Mouth:

- i. To communicate useful information to others.
- ii. To praise God.

Nose:

- i. To notice bad smell (for observing hygiene).
- ii. To admire God's love.

Legs:

- i. To serve others by reaching them or going where we are sent.
- ii. To care for God's creation by moving to where it is.
- iii. To move to worshipping places.
- iv. To go to work/ to others who are needy.