

Believing

Year: 3 Term: 5

Key question: Why is the Bible important for Christians today?

What makes a book special or sacred? The Bible as a guide for Christians, it is used to make sense of life and to help people with what matters most. The Bible teaches Christians about God, safety, love, life and family. There are many different ways in which Christians use and value their sacred book - other religions have sacred writings as well (such as the Qur'an for Muslims and the Torah for Jewish people).

The Christian Bible consists of 2 Testaments, 66 books, 1189 chapters and over 31,000 verses! These divisions are all there to help people find a sentence in the Bible quite easily. These were not in the original writings - chapters were added in 13th Century; and verses in the 16th Century as Bibles were being printed. The different books are different types of writing e.g. histories; laws; poems; prayers; biographies (Gospels); letters; visions; poems and songs. What Christians call the 'Old Testament' is Jewish scripture too, and Jewish people call it the 'Jewish Bible'. The Bible was not written in English. The Christian Old Testament ('Jewish Bible') was written in Hebrew. The New Testament was mainly written in Greek. The Bible has been translated many times.

Vocabulary

Bible	The Christian scriptures, consisting of the Old and New Testaments. The sacred book of the Christian religion.
wisdom	The quality of having experience, knowledge and good judgement.
sacred	When something is connected with God or a god or dedicated to a religious purpose.
testament	A testament is a statement of belief. The most famous testaments are the two parts of the Christian Bible: the Old and New Testaments.
psalm	A book of the Bible comprising a collection of religious verses, sung or recited in both Jewish and Christian worship.
sermon	A talk on a religious or moral subject, especially one given during a church service and based on a passage from the Bible.
temptation	The desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise.
forgiveness	Forgiveness or the idea of forgiving means you're letting go of feelings of resentment and vengeance.
reconciliation	Reconciliation is the process of bringing people with differences together and helping them understand each other.

Key Questions:

- Do we all need wisdom and how do Christians find and use ancient wisdom from the Bible?
- How is the Bible put together and why is it so popular?
- What does the Bible teach Christians?
- How can the Bible help people if they are tempted to do the wrong thing?
- What are the main ways Christians use the Bible?
- What are your favourite wise words and ideas from the Bible?



The Holy Bible



A sermon being given in a church.