

Christian Baptism

The activities in this unit will help you to consider how and why religious believers celebrate the birth of a baby. The activities are designed to be useful for GCSE Religious Studies full or short course across all the exam boards.

You will need to have a good understanding of the content of your GCSE course to make the most of the activities, thinking carefully about where the learning in this unit fits in with your course of study. Please see the final page of this document, where you can link to relevant pages of your exam board's website and check what's on the specification for your course. It may also be helpful to look at past papers to get an idea of what sorts of questions may come up.

Christian Baptism

Use the image here as the centre point to make a mind map about baptism.



Image: Josh Applegate, *Unsplash*

Christian celebrations: Baptism

Watch this film on Christian baptism from True Tube:

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/christian-baptism>



and write responses to the questions that follow:

1) Describe what happens in a Christian infant baptism.

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2) Explain three of the symbols used in a Christian infant baptism.

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3) Explain why many Christians feel that baptising babies is important.

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Different Christian views on baptism

Not all Christians agree that baptising babies is the right thing to do. Some reasons for differences of opinions between Christians are explained in the True Tube clip. Fill in the 'Y' diagram below in as much detail as possible.

After weighing up the arguments, I think...

Infant baptism is best because...

Adult baptism is best because...

Stretch Activity (optional)

Read the gospel account of Jesus' baptism, Matthew 3:13-17.
If you don't have access to a copy of the Bible, you can find it here:
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew+3%3A13-17&version=NIV>



How might this influence a Christian's view on whether it is best to baptise people as babies or as adults?

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Evaluation question types for the different exam boards

Different exam boards have different ways of asking evaluation questions. When you see the 'evaluation practice' activities in the home learning materials, we will give you a statement to evaluate, and follow it with 'Discuss/evaluate'. Look up your exam board on the grid below to remind yourself of the exact wording you will see on the exam paper for an evaluation question, and how many marks you can earn from them.

AQA – 12 marks Evaluate this statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• refer to the teaching of the religion in question• give reasoned arguments to support the statement• give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view• reach a justified conclusion.	Eduqas and WJEC – 15 marks Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. Refer to religion and belief.
OCR – 15 marks Discuss this statement. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyse and evaluate the importance of points of view, referring to common and divergent views within the religion in question• Refer to sources of wisdom and authority.	Pearson Edexcel – 15 marks Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• refer to teachings of the religions in question• refer to different religious points of view• reach a justified conclusion.

BBC Bitesize GCSE Religious Studies Resources

The BBC Bitesize website has GCSE Religious Studies resources for each of the exam boards. You will find basic information relating to the topics that you need to learn about as well as useful videos and quizzes to test your knowledge and understanding. You can find these by following the link or QR code below:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zb48q6f>








GCSE Religious Studies web pages for Exam Boards

The GCSE lessons to take away from RE Today have been designed to help with all the GCSE specifications available, whatever exam board you use at your school.

It is very important, especially when working at home, that you know which exam board and specification you are following. If you're not sure, have a look at your school's website or contact your teacher online, e.g. by email.

The exam boards' websites have detailed information about the course you are studying. They also have past exam papers and mark schemes. Some of them have free learning resources for you to download and use as well. Here are the links and QR codes that will take you directly to the GCSE Religious Studies pages for each of the exam boards.

AQA		https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/religious-studies/gcse/religious-studies-a-8062
Eduqas		https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies/gcse/
OCR		https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse/religious-studies-j625-j125-from-2016/
Pearson Edexcel	 	Specification A (Faith in Practice in the 21 st Century): https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-a-2016.html Specification B (Beliefs in Action) https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.html
WJEC (Wales)		https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/religious-studies/r-religious-studies-gcse-2017/

For more resources like this, please visit <https://shop.natre.org.uk/natre-membership/>