

Religion	Judaism
Denomination	Orthodox
Question answered:	How does your belief in God affect your daily life? (KS2 Q2)
Key Concepts, questions, and outcomes:	God, Cycles, Kosher, duty, roles To what extent do religious beliefs influence and encourage 'good' behaviour? Identify how core beliefs can guide lifestyle choices. Describe and explain what motivates and inspires believers and how this can be reflected in actions/practice.
Key teaching points:	Judaism governs the pattern of life on a daily, monthly, annual cycle as well as over the course of a person's life.
Prior knowledge:	The 10 commandments; Prayer.

Core Vocabulary:			
Torah	The sacred text for Jews, setting out the 613 commandments.	Kashrut (Kosher)	The laws about what Jewish people can and cannot eat etc.
Shabbat (Sabbath)	Sundown on Friday through to an hour after sundown on Saturday, the Jewish day of rest.	Prayers	Orthodox Jews have many set prayers to be said at particular times of the day.
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	The coming of age ceremony at which a boy or a girl make the transition to responsibility. For girls this is at age 12, for boys at age 13	613 commandments	The various laws set down through the books of the Torah that govern many aspects of life for a Jew.

Summary of answers:
<p>The Torah sets out or prescribes many of the actions that a Jewish person must undertake during the day. The first speaker says that this makes life easy because at any moment of the day she knows what she needs to do. For her as a woman, the main roles are around the home and family, as well as any paid employment. The command to care for those less fortunate is also a factor in her daily life.</p> <p>Both speakers refer to the need to keep the rules of Kosher food, choosing the correct items to eat, and washing and preparing them in the correct way.</p> <p>The second speaker talks much more about the full daily routine, of morning, afternoon, evening, and night prayers. He also refers to the weekly cycle of Shabbat and the monthly cycle of prayers on sighting the new moon. Note that he also says that sometimes there are thirteen months in a year. This occurs 7 times in 19 years and is needed to keep the annual festivals in the correct season, as the Jewish months are shorter than in the western calendar. The lunar year is on average 11 days shorter than the solar year. It is the sighting of the new moon that is significant in the timing.</p> <p>There is also the cycle through life, from birth, bar mitzvah, marriage and so on.</p> <p>Like the first speaker, observance of the commandments is key to his daily life, but he makes it clear that there are both positive (thou shalt) and negative (thou shalt not) commands, and that some are focused on certain types of people, according to their job or gender.</p>

Next Steps:
<p>Find out more about the prayers for specific times of the day and discuss whether having set prayers helps a person to stay close to G-d.</p> <p>Discuss whether having lots of rules or commandments to follow really does make life easier.</p>

Find out more about the way that rites of passage such as Bar Mitzvah and marriage are celebrated in the Orthodox Jewish community and compare them to the observance of reform or liberal Judaism.

Explore some of the commands from the Books of Deuteronomy and Leviticus. Which of those commands would it be good to follow today? Which would be easy to follow? Which would be hard?

Compare the Jewish tradition of having 13 months 7 times in 19 years with the way that the Islamic calendar (also a lunar calendar) does not. How does that change the way that festivals are observed?