

CHRISTIAN BELIEFS AND PRACTICES: THE BIBLE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To understand how the Bible is structured

To investigate why the Bible is important to Christians

To consider the reliability and relevancy of the Bible.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

BY THE END OF THIS PROJECT:

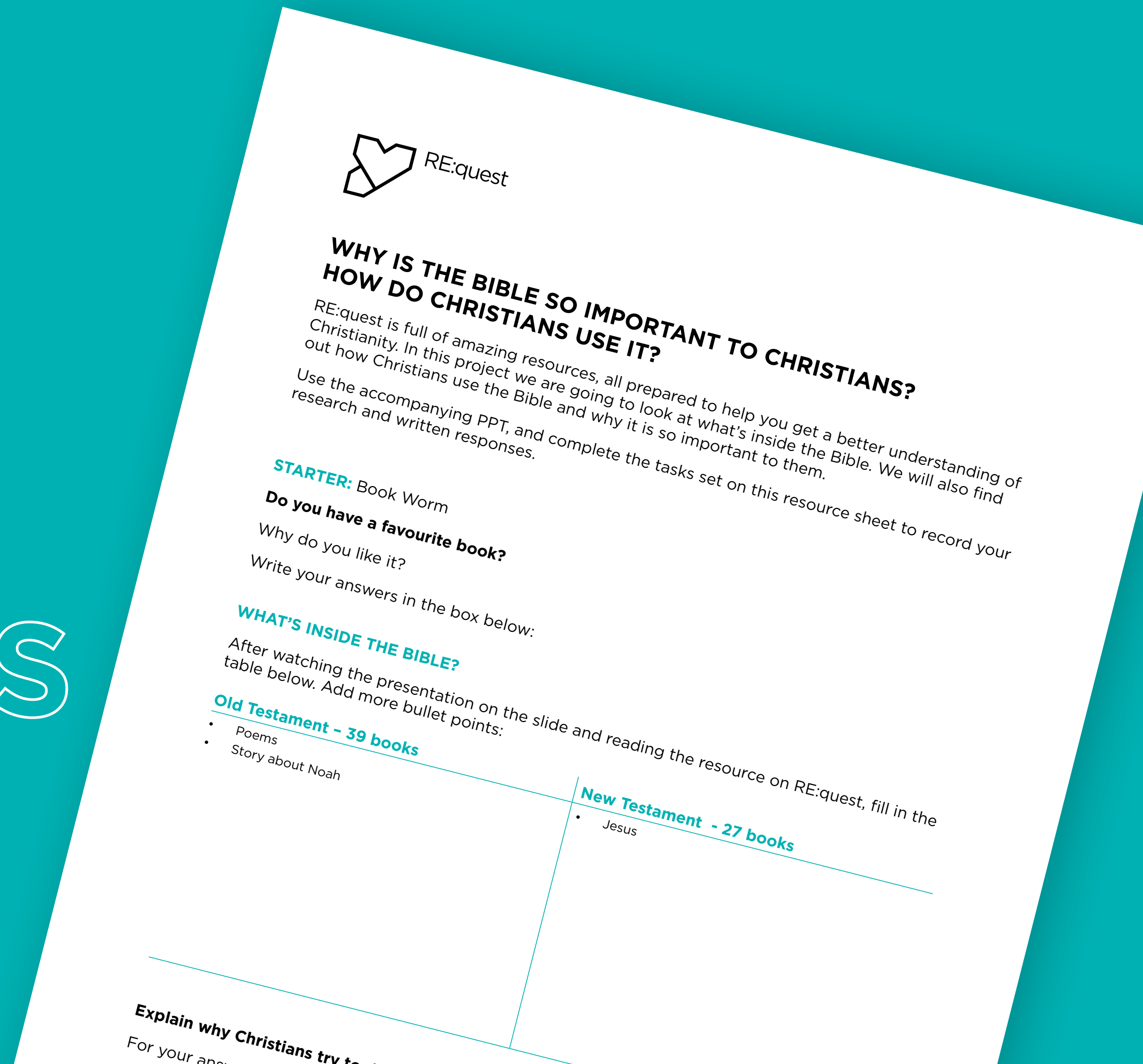
All of you will describe the Bible's structure. You will show understanding of why the Bible is important to Christians

Most of you will explain how the Bible is structured and why it is important to Christians. You will link extracts from the Bible to explain how Christians use the Bible. You will show an understanding of how the Bible is reliable and relevant today.

Some of you will analyse in detail the way in which the Bible is structured and give a detailed explanation as to why it is important to Christians. You will link extensive extracts from the Bible in an explanation of how Christians use the Bible. You will provide an excellent evaluation of the reliability and relevancy of the Bible today.

You will need some writing materials or you could use the specially created PDF file. This will help you record the fascinating facts that you are about to discover...

IT LOOKS A
BIT LIKE THIS



BOOK WORM

Do you have a favourite book?

Why do you like it?

What makes it so special?

Good books can be entertaining,
leading us on adventures to faraway lands.

SOMETIMES WE
CAN LEARN
FROM THEM.

Some have poetry.

The Bible contains all these things
and more!

THE BIBLE IS
THE BOOK OF
CHOICE FOR
CHRISTIANS.

**MANY WOULD SAY IT'S
THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK.**



WHAT'S INSIDE THE BIBLE?

Follow this link for an introduction to how the Bible is structured. **Click here....**

WHAT'S INSIDE THE BIBLE?

- a)** After watching the presentation on the previous slide, explain how the Bible is structured into two sections.
- b)** What is inside these sections? Be as detailed as possible!

For extra information click on the following links

Link one. Click here...

Link two. Click here...

Link three. Click here...

GO CREATE

If you prefer, draw a colourful bookcase. This should contain the different types of books that can be found the Bible...

You could separate it into 2 sections:
The Old and the New Testament



WHY IS THE BIBLE SO IMPORTANT TO CHRISTIANS?

There is a really important reason Christians enjoy reading the Bible. Christians believe that the Bible is the written word of God.

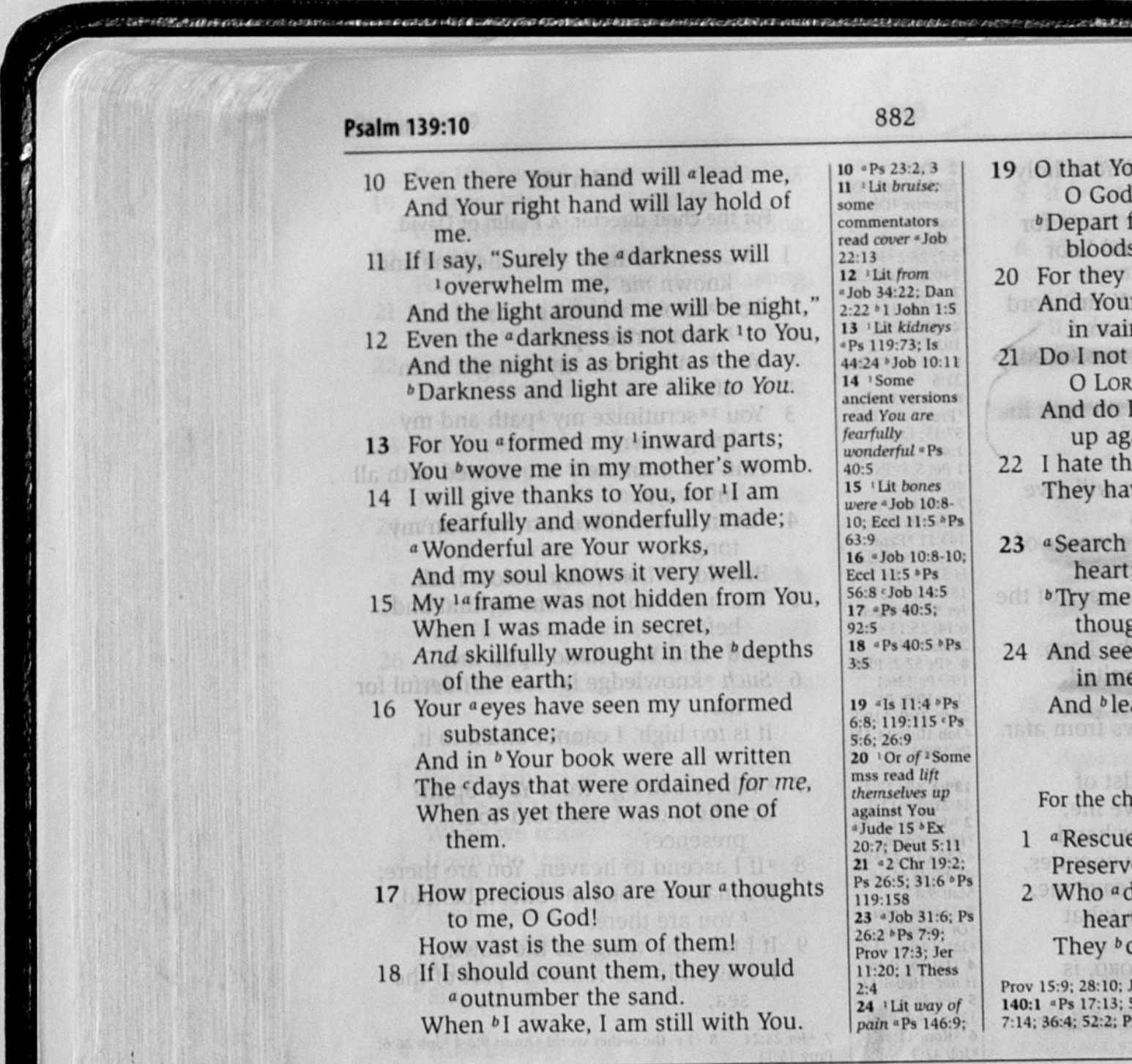
They believe that it was written by people who were inspired by God.

THEY OFTEN CALL THE BIBLE 'GOD'S WORD'.

GOD'S WORD

Because of this belief, Christians feel that the Bible has great authority. They take what it says very seriously. They also take special care to follow the instructions within it.

TASK: EXPLAIN WHY CHRISTIANS TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO FOLLOW THE BIBLE'S INSTRUCTIONS



10 Even there Your hand will ^alead me,
And Your right hand will lay hold of
me.
11 If I say, "Surely the ^adarkness will
¹overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
12 Even the ^adarkness is not dark ¹to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
^bDarkness and light are alike *to You*.
13 For You ^aformed my ¹inward parts;
You ^bwove me in my mother's womb.
14 I will give thanks to You, for ¹I am
fearfully and wonderfully made;
^aWonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
15 My ^{1a}frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the ^bdepths
of the earth;
16 Your ^aeyes have seen my unformed
substance;
And in ^bYour book were all written
The ^cdays that were ordained *for me*,
When as yet there was not one of
them.
17 How precious also are Your ^athoughts
to me, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
18 If I should count them, they would
^aoutnumber the sand.
When ^bI awake, I am still with You.

¹⁰ ^aPs 23:2, 3
¹¹ ¹Lit *bruise*;
some
commentators
read *cover* ^aJob
22:13
¹² ¹Lit *from*
^aJob 34:22; Dan
2:22 ¹John 1:5
¹³ ¹Lit *kidneys*
^aPs 119:73; Is
44:24 ^aJob 10:11
¹⁴ ¹Some
ancient versions
read *You are*
fearfully
wonderful ^aPs
40:5
¹⁵ ¹Lit *bones*
were ^aJob 10:8-
10; Eccl 11:5 ^aPs
63:9
¹⁶ ^aJob 10:8-10;
Eccl 11:5 ^aPs
56:8 ^aJob 14:5
17 ^aPs 40:5;
92:5
18 ^aPs 40:5 ^aPs
3:5
19 ^aIs 11:4 ^aPs
6:8; 119:115 ^aPs
5:6; 26:9
20 ¹Or *of* ²Some
mss read *lift*
themselves up
against You
^aJude 15 ^aEx
20:7; Deut 5:11
21 ^a2 Chr 19:2;
Ps 26:5; 31:6 ^aPs
119:158
23 ^aJob 31:6; Ps
26:2 ^aPs 7:9;
Prov 17:3; Jer
11:20; 1 Thess
2:4
24 ¹Lit *way of*
pain ^aPs 146:9;

19 O that You
O God
^bDepart from
bloods
20 For they
And You
in vain
21 Do I not
O LORD
And do I
up ag
22 I hate th
They ha
23 ^aSearch
heart
^bTry me
thoug
24 And see
in me
And ^ble
For the ch
1 ^aRescue
Preserv
2 Who ^ad
hear
They ^bd
Prov 15:9; 28:10; J
140:1 ^aPs 17:13;
7:14; 36:4; 52:2; P

by referring to its two extremes (merism), vv. 8–9 specify all spatial reality, the whole creation.
139:10 *lead me ... lay hold of me.* Though this language occurs in 73:23–24 to indicate God's solicitous care, it here denotes God's inescapable supervision, not unlike the thought of v. 5.
139:11–12 Just as the whole creation offers no hiding place (vv. 8–9), neither does even the darkness.
139:13–16 You Yourself put me together in the womb and ordained the span of my life before I was born.
139:13 *inward parts.* Lit. "kidneys"—in Hebrew idiom, the innermost center of emotions and of moral sensitivity—that which God tests and examines when He "tries" a person (see note on 7:9).

139:17 *Your thoughts.* Contrast with "my thoughts."
139:18 *When I awake.* Every attempt to control (119:148), and waking sense of the presence.
139:19–22 My zeal for You.
139:19 *O that You* v. patience toward the v. But the psalmist leaves.
139:20 *take Your name* on those trying to be.
139:21–22 A declaration required by ancient Hebrew

HOW DO CHRISTIANS USE THE BIBLE?

The Bible is probably the most famous book in the world. It's certainly the best-selling, having been translated into 698 languages. It's clear that people around the world love reading it. To find out a bit more about how they use it, watch this video. **Click here....**

Through reading it they believe **THAT GOD SPEAKS TO THEM TODAY.** Imagine reading a book and getting a message from God: how special is that?

They read the Bible and it helps them to understand **WHAT GOD IS LIKE AND HOW TO LIVE THEIR LIVES.** They also find comfort in the words.

WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AT SOME BIBLE EXTRACTS

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven.’ **Matthew 5: 43-45**

As you read the extracts, make a note of what Christians can learn about God and/or attitudes and ways they should behave – use the PDF resource sheet or paper to record your answers

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, if my brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times do I have to forgive him? Seven times?”

²² “No, not seven times,” answered Jesus, “but seventy times seven, ²³ because the Kingdom of heaven is like this.

Matthew 18:21-23

³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

Matthew 22:36-39

¹ Whoever goes to the Lord for safety, whoever
remains under the protection of the Almighty,
² can say to him,
“You are my defender and protector.
You are my God; in you I trust.”
³ He will keep you safe from all hidden dangers
and from all deadly diseases.
⁴ He will cover you with his wings;
you will be safe in his care;
his faithfulness will protect and defend you.
⁵ You need not fear any dangers at night
or sudden attacks during the day
⁶ or the plagues that strike in the dark
or the evils that kill in daylight.

Psalms 91: 1-6

²⁸ Don't you know? Haven't you heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God;
he created all the world.
He never grows tired or weary.
No one understands his thoughts.
²⁹ He strengthens those who are weak and tired.
³⁰ Even those who are young grow weak;
young people can fall exhausted.
³¹ But those who trust in the Lord for help
will find their strength renewed.
They will rise on wings like eagles;
they will run and not get weary;
they will walk and not grow weak.'

Isaiah 40: 28-31

IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?

We've seen how Christians use the Bible and why it's so important to them.

But the Bible was written hundreds of years ago, how can we take it seriously?



MMM GOOD QUESTION...

Click on the following links to find out how the Bible can be trusted

Link one. Click here...

Link two. Click here...

TASK: EXPLAIN WHY THESE RESOURCES SUGGEST THAT THE BIBLE CAN BE TRUSTED. GIVE AT LEAST 3 REASONS

IS THE BIBLE RELEVANT TODAY?

Even if we accept the Bible can be trusted, how can it be relevant today? It was written so many years ago and society has completely changed. Surely it's too outdated to be useful?

Click on the link to read some information about this.
Click here...

TASK: HOW DOES THE RESOURCE SUGGEST THE BIBLE IS STILL RELEVANT TODAY?

THEME PARK

a) Design a theme park around your learning on the Bible. Take a look at the 'Theme Park Map' PDF to get some ideas about how lay out your theme park. Visit **this link (click here...)** to find lots of Bible story cartoons. List some of these.

Include these story ideas in your theme park: design some themed areas, rides and restaurants

SUCCESS CRITERIA

YOUR THEME PARK SHOULD INCLUDE:

- At least 2 different areas
- At least 10 rides
- Restaurants
- Keywords
- Lots of colour
- A strong name

NB All areas, rides and restaurants should be connected to your learning on the Bible

THEME PARK

B) Write a short guide to your theme park.
Explain why you've made the following choices:

- Name of the theme park
- Areas, rides and restaurants
- Layout choice



PLENARY: WHAT IF?

WHAT IF...

...the Bible was banned?

...the Bible had never been written?

What difference would this make to a
Christian's life?

A person with their face and hair covered in vibrant, multi-colored powders (red, blue, yellow, green) is shown from the chest up. They are wearing a dark jacket. A large, dense cloud of bright red powder is being released from the left side of the frame, partially obscuring the person's face. The background is a clear blue sky.

YOU'VE COMPLETED
YOUR MISSION!

SEND IT TO YOUR TEACHER

and sit back with the satisfaction
of knowing you did a great job!

EXTENSION ACTIVITY: MIND MAP

Imagine you are a Christian.

Write an email to a friend explaining why you read the Bible.

Include:

- Why you think the Bible is important
- How you read it
- What you get out of reading it