Subject: R.E – Christianity God	Year: B – LKS2
Key Question (to be used all year): How should we live our lives?	
Focus Question (for this investigation): How and why might Christians use the Bible?	
PoS aims from Lancashire SACRE:	
Key features = The Bible, Christian life – guided by wisdom, teachings and authority.	
	r

This unit investigates how and why Christians use the Bible today and why the Bible is seen as a source of inspirations and authority by many Christians. Pupils should understand that the Bible is not one book but a collection of books, written by different people at different times. They should know that the Bible contains two main sections – the Old Testament (which is the Jewish scriptures) and the New Testament (about Jesus and the early Church). Pupils should explore the idea that the Bible has authority for Christians because it is 'the Word of God', but that Christians have different views about what this means – some take it as a literal truth, whereas others take the liberal view that it contains truths about God and how God wants people to live but that the stories themselves may not be literally true. Pupils should be able to recognise and use specialist terms such as Gospel, parable, literal and liberal. They should also develop their skills in reading and interpreting religious texts. Pupils should also learn about other sources of wisdom and authority that may guide Christians in making moral decisions.

Prior Learning (what pupils already know and can do)

 In KS1 Year B Christianity God, children learnt about the creation story so will have an understanding to base the idea of liberal and literal interpretations upon.

End Points (what pupils MUST know and remember)

- To understand that the Bible is not one book but a collection of books, written by different people at different times.
  To know that the Bible has two main parts The Old Testament and The New Testament
- To know that many Christians use the Bible as a source of inspirations, guidance and authority but that many Christians have different views about what 'the word of God' means – some believe that all the stories actually happened but some believe that the stories have been 'made up' to explain something difficult to understand or to deliver a specific message or moral.
- To know that many Christians read the Bible regularly and that most Christians will have their own Bible. Many Christians study the Bible in order to understand God better.

#### **Key Vocabulary**

Authority, guidance, sacred text, Old Testament, New Testament, Bible, viewpoint

#### **Curriculum Connections:**

- Literacy recognising different types of texts and the features of these.
- Personal Development Dreams and Goals.

#### **Career Opportunities:**

#### – Writer

#### Session 1: What is authority and where do we go to find it?

To understand the concept of authority and know that the sacred text that Christians use as a source of authority is the Bible.

#### **Core Knowledge**

• To know that Christians use the Bible today as a source of inspirations and authority by many Christians

#### Suggested Activities/Teacher subject knowledge

- Shared understanding Explore the meaning of authority (the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience)
- Look at a pictures representing the idea of authority (eg. police uniform, Judge's wig/gavel, photograph of the Headteacher, Lollipop man/man). Pupils to suggest what the pictures have in common. Discuss examples of authority within the school, home and community and suggest examples of different ways that this might influence a person's life.
- Explain to children that when it comes to finding out about or understanding something, or making decisions about what to do, most people have various sources of authority they can go to for guidance and help. These might include: friends, family, personal experience, rational thinking, conscience

- Religious people also have other sources of guidance and help available to them. These might include:
  - $\circ \quad \text{ sacred texts} \quad$
  - o founders of the faith
  - o religious principles or rules
  - o faith community leaders
  - o religious tradition
  - o other people in the faith community
- The sacred text that Christians use as a source of authority is the Bible

#### Vocabulary: sacred, authority, Bible, guidance

#### Session 2: How is the Bible comprised?

To know that the bible has two main parts and is written by many different people.

#### Core Knowledge

To understand that the Bible is not one book but a collection of books, written by different people at different times. To know that the Bible has two main parts – The Old Testament (The Jewish scriptures) and The New Testament (about Jesus and the early church)

#### Suggested Activities/Teacher subject kowledge

- Brainstorm different types of writing found in a library. Draw out categories/genres e.g. adventure stories, historical stories, romance, fables, parables, science fiction, poetry. Discuss why people write in different forms – consider purpose of different types of writing.
- Look at the contents page of the Bible and remind pupils that it was compiled over a long period of time and is really a collection of books, written by different authors at different times.
- Discuss the two Testaments
  - The first part of the Bible is called the Old Testament, which begins with God's Creation of the universe and humanity. This is the Jewish scriptures (make a link back to Abrahamic religions). The Old Testament was written before the incarnation of Jesus (God in human form)
  - The second part of the Bible is called the New Testament. It opens with the four Gospels which describe the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. At the very start of the New Testament is Matthew's description of the birth of Jesus. The New Testament also contains the letters of the early Church leaders to the early Christians and ends with the Book of Revelation, which tells Christians about the end of the world.
- Look at the following extracts from different parts of the Bible and ask children to identify their genre:
  - Genesis 1:1–4 (narrative) i.e. <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%201%3A1-4&version=NIV</u>
  - Psalm 23:1–2 (poetry) i.e. <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+23&version=NKJV</u>
  - Proverbs 3: 5-10 (wisdom) <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=proverbs+3%3A5-10&version=NIV</u>
  - the crucifixion of Jesus Luke 23 (history)
  - <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luke+23&version=GNT</u>
    The Parable of the lost sheep Luke 15 (parable)
  - <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luke+15&version=GNT</u>
    A New Testament letter such as 1 Corinthians 1:1–3 (letter)
  - https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+corinthians+1%3A1-3&version=GNT
  - Amos a prophecy (prophecy)) i.e. <u>https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Amos+1&version=GNT</u>
- Discuss how the Bible is made up of many different books, many different genre and written by many different authors. Each book has a different meaning and purpose but altogether the Bible offers guidance for Christians, who can look at different books and chapters to find authority on various matters. Sort the books into categories.

#### Vocabulary: sacred, authority, Bible, guidance, Old Testament, New Testament

#### Session 3: How might Christians use the Bible?

To know that Christians read the bible in different ways, as a guide to life.

#### **Core Knowledge**

- To know that the Bible is important to Christians as it provides guidance from God on how to live well
- To know that many Christians read the Bible regularly. They might read it each week at a church service, or they might read it every day at home. Most Christians will have their own Bible at home.
- To know that lots of Christians study the Bible in order to understand God better. They might answer questions about the scripture they read, or talk in a group about it, or listen to a priest, or vicar, talk about it.

• To understand that Christians may also look to other 'sources of authority' when making decisions about how to live (e.g. church leaders, prayer, conscience)

# Suggested Activities/Teacher subject knowledge

- Watch <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvGTbVP\_jIA</u>
- Christians believe that the Bible is God's word and that The Bible contains laws for living according to God's rules and advice for living well. Link to ten commandments.
- Many Christians read the Bible regularly. They might read it each week at a church service, or they might read it every day at home. Most Christians will have their own Bible at home.
- As well as reading the Bible, lots of Christians study the Bible. This means they read and then think about it. They might answer questions about the scripture they read, or talk in a group about it, or listen to a priest, or vicar, talk about it.
- Christians believe studying the Bible is important to be able to understand God better. Choose a story to study together, what can Christians learn from it? E.g. a parable
- Compare different Bibles a children's Bible, a comic-book Bible, a Gideon's Bible, an adult Bible.
- Discuss why Christians might think it important to create Bibles that children are able to read.

Vocabulary: sacred, authority, Bible, guidance, scripture,

#### Session 4: How do different Christians regard the Bible?

To know that some Christians believe the bible is the word of God, but others interpret it as words that are written about God. Christians use the bible as a guide for life.

## Core Knowledge

• To know that Christians have different views about what 'the word of God' means – some believe that all the stories in the Bible actually happened but some believe that the stories have been 'made up' to explain something difficult to understand or to deliver a specific message or moral.

#### Suggested activities/Teacher subject knowledge

- Explain that Christians generally regard the Bible as their holy/sacred text. They follow the rules it contains for living life and can turn to Jesus's teachings for moral guidance. However, Christians can interpret the Bible in different ways.
- Some Christians regard the words of the Bible as being the true voice of God (a literal view). For example, when reading the creation story in Genesis, these Christians would believe that the world was literally created in seven days.
- Other (liberal) Christians regard the Bible as words that have been written about God. Although these are a good guide for Christians in understanding their faith, they might interpret passages differently to fit modern society. For example, when reading the creation story, these Christian might believe that the Genesis account is simply a story to help Christians understand that God is the creator of the world.

#### Vocabulary: viewpoint

# Session 5: Are all Biblical stories relevant to the modern world? What other sources of guidance are available to Christians?

To know that Christians may also seek the guidance of church leaders, role models and other Christians as well as the bible.

#### **Core Knowledge**

• To understand that Christians may also look to other 'sources of authority' when making decisions about how to live (e.g. church leaders, prayer, conscience)

# Suggested activities/Teacher subject knowledge

 Look at the story of Daniel (referred to in the video clip from session 4 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvGTbVP\_jIA</u>) and discuss what wisdom and guidance children might learn from this story. Discuss if children think this story would still have a meaning to Christians today (relevance)- or if it is outdated as a source of guidance. If it is seen as outdated, where else might Christians go to for guidance? • Ask the children to think about other sources of guidance that Christians might use when thinking about how to live i.e. leaders of the church, other Christians, Christian literature written by significant Christians, role models from the Christian faith etc. (this will be explored more in UKS2)

Vocabulary: relevance, guidance, sources of authority, significant

#### Session 6: How might people use sources of authority?

Children reflect on how the importance of having sources of authority from other religious and nonreligious viewpoints

### **Suggested activities**

- Ask children to list the people who have influenced their own sense of right and wrong and to suggest why these people are a good source of wisdom and authority.
- Discuss How do we use these sources of authority? E.g. do we go to them for all decisions? Do we use different people or different sources at different points?
- Non-religion Humanists have no outside authority or sacred text to definitively tell them what is right and what is wrong, or even what it means to be a humanist. Humanists do however agree on many social and life issues. More information at <a href="https://www.reonline.org.uk/knowledge/humanism/sources-of-authority/">https://www.reonline.org.uk/knowledge/humanism/sources-of-authority/</a> Discuss this and whether it is important to have an outside source of authority or a sacred text.

Vocabulary: humanism, non-religion, guidance, sources of authority,

Future learning this content supports:

In UKS2 year A, children will consider guidance in more detail, with an emphasis on guidance from sacred texts. They will consider the Qu'ran as the Islamic sacred text and the Torah as the Jewish sacred text, as well as how stories can offer guidance for followers of a religion (e.g. stories of Prince Prahlad). They will also consider the literal and metaphorical interpretations of Biblical stories (i.e. The Fall).