

The Nature of God, the Trinity and Jesus		✓
<b>Monotheism</b>	Christianity is a monotheistic religion because it teaches that there is only one God. He is 'One'. Christians believe that God is: benevolent, omniscient, omnipotent, monotheistic, a judge, eternal, transcendent, immanent, personal and forgiving.	
<b>Benevolent</b>	God is loving and kind.	
<b>Omniscient</b>	God is all knowing. He sees everything.	
<b>Omnipotent</b>	God is all powerful.	
<b>Eternal</b>	God is without beginning or end.	
<b>Transcendent</b>	God is beyond 'normal' time and space.	
<b>Immanent</b>	God is involved and intervenes in people's lives.	
<b>Personal</b>	God enters into a relationship with people e.g. when they pray.	
<b>A Judge</b>	God is fair and righteous. He will punish wrongdoing and reward the good.	
<b>Forgiving</b>	God forgives those who seek forgiveness.	
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	Jesus taught his followers the Lord's Prayer in the Sermon on the Mount. It describes the nature of God and His relationship with humanity.	
<b>The Ten Commandments</b>	The Laws given to Moses on Mount Sinai which outline what God expects of human behaviour towards Him and towards one another.	
<b>The Trinity</b>	The word 'trinity' means triad or three united as one. The Bible presents God as a Trinity, as being one God but having three distinct parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Father</li> <li>• The Son</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit</li> </ul> Each 'person' in the Trinity fulfils a different role:	
<b>God the Father</b>	The powerful creator of the universe. A loving parent who conveys a sense of safety and protection for his followers.	
<b>God the Son</b>	Jesus is God in human form, free from sin, fully God and fully man. He came to show people how to live, to suffer and die for his people, and to rise from the dead.	
<b>God the Holy Spirit</b>	The part of God that comes alongside people as a comfort and a guide. Christians believe that the Holy Spirit empowers them to live a Christian life.	
<b>The Creeds</b>	A <b>Creed</b> is a statement of belief. The Creeds explain what Christians believe about God and the Trinity. The <b>Nicene Creed</b> and the <b>Apostles Creed</b> are well known statements of faith among Christian Churches. The words of the <b>Nicene Creed</b> were agreed at an <b>ecumenical</b> meeting of Christians in a place called Nicea. It is used by Roman Catholics, Anglicans and most Protestant Churches.	
<b>Not all Christians believe in the Trinity.</b>	Almost all people who call themselves Christians hold the belief that God is a Trinity. However, <b>Christadelphians</b> regard themselves as Christians but don't accept some mainstream Christian doctrine. They believe that God is <b>not</b> a Trinity, as the word Trinity does not appear in the Bible, but the single being God the Father. They believe that Jesus Christ was (and is) the Son of God, but was also a man as he was born of a woman, though this birth was miraculous. They believe that the Holy Spirit is the power of God. They believe in each as a separate entity, and not as one united entity.	

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<b>Jesus / Jesus Christ</b>	The Son of God. Both fully God and fully human. He became incarnate (God in human form) from the Virgin Mary. The Creeds outline all Christians beliefs about Jesus.	
<b>Messiah</b>	Christians believe that Jesus is the <b>Messiah (Christ)</b> . The word Messiah means anointed one, or someone who has been sent with God's blessing	
<b>Jesus as Lord and Saviour</b>	Christians believe that he suffered and died so that people would not have to suffer for their own sins or wrongdoing. In his death and resurrection, Jesus beat death, showing that he was God in human form - fully human and also fully God. This is why Christians call him <b>Lord</b> and <b>Saviour</b> . The Hebrew word for Lord is Adonai, and in the New Testament Paul teaches that declaring Jesus as Lord is the route to salvation (Romans 10:9).	
<b>Agape</b>	To be self-sacrificing, loving and compassionate in their treatment of others.	
<b>The Sermon on the Mount</b>	The Sermon on the Mount was one of Jesus' most important 'speeches' or lessons. The Bible describes him as standing on a hill, teaching a huge crowd. The lessons that Jesus taught in this speech, or the wisdom he passed on, are still important to Christians today. These teachings influence their beliefs, practices, lifestyle and moral outlook.	
<b>The Two Great Commandments</b>	Throughout this chapter in Mark's Gospel, Jesus is being questioned, or more precisely tested, by the Sadducees and teachers of the Law. On being asked which is the most important commandment, Jesus replies with the words of the Shema, the Jewish statement of belief in one God, and that the second most important commandment is to 'love your neighbour'. By doing these two things, a person builds their relationship with God and gains entry to the Kingdom of Heaven. They should automatically fulfil every other commandment and teaching in the Bible.	