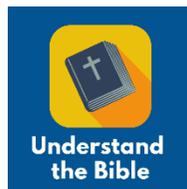


# What is Christianity?

## Part One: Creation

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## Video Summary

### What is the Bible?

- The Bible is made up of 66 books. The Old Testament has 39 and the New Testament 27.
- The Old Testament is basically the story before Jesus; the New Testament is Jesus' life and what happened just afterwards.
- The whole Bible is about Jesus!

### Why is it important?

- "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and make us realise what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do."  
*2 Timothy 3:16-17, New Living Translation*
- The Bible is God's message to us today!

### Bible Translations

- Bibles in English need to be translated from Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament). My own favoured

translation is the New International Version (NIV), but in the course we will use the New Living Translation (NLT). You can see lots of translations at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

## **Creation – Genesis 1**

- “In the beginning, God” – foundational truth: God created everything else.
- The Bible does not refer to God in general times, but as the God who created everything, the God who reveals himself in the Bible.
- Human beings are special, uniquely made in the image of God (1:27).
- God made a good world for us to enjoy – creation and physical things are good!

## **What difference does it make?**

- God made us: we need to know and understand him in order to know and understand ourselves and the meaning of our lives.
- Because he made us, God has the right to tell us what to do and how to live.
- God made us to enjoy him and to enjoy the world.

# Bible Study

- What words come into your mind when you think about the Bible?
  
- How would you feel about hearing a message from God?



*Read Genesis chapter 1*

- How many elements are repeated in the days of creation?
  
- What do you think that helps us understand about God / creation?
  
- Compare what is created in days 1-3 with days 4-6. Do you spot any connections?

Day	What is created	Day	What is created
1		4	
2		5	
3		6	



*Read Genesis 1:27.*

- Think about being made in the image of God. What implications does that have for?
  - ⇒ How we treat other people?
  - ⇒ The uniqueness of human beings?
  - ⇒ Being male and female?
  - ⇒ The meaning of our lives?
  
- How do you feel about God making creation “good”? Does it change the way you see the world in any way?
  
  
- How do you feel about God creating you as an individual?

Q. What do you believe when you say, “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth”?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ the Son. I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this sad world. God is able to do this because he is almighty God and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father. (Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 26)