

Unit 4.5: Are all churches the same?

Key Questions:

What does 'church' mean?
 Are all churches the same?
 What does it mean to belong to a church?
 What have you learned about the church that you didn't know before?
 Where do people of other faiths worship? Are they all the same?
 Are there any similarities between places of worship? What are the key differences?

Christian Values:
 Faith
 Respect
 Reverence



Christian Concepts:

Gospel: (The good news about Jesus - God coming to earth; Jesus taking the punishment for people's sin by dying on the cross; Jesus making it possible for people to be friends with God again and giving them a place in Heaven for ever.)

Kingdom of God: (Where God is King and reigns over everything.)

Key Vocabulary:

Cathedral: A very large, usually stone, building for Christian worship. It is the largest and most important church in the area controlled by a Bishop.

Chapel: A room part of a bigger building, used for Christian worship.

Church: A building used for religious activities; a group of believers.

Curate: Someone training to be a vicar.

Minister: A religious leader in a particular church, eg a Baptist church.

Priest: A person trained in particular duties in a church, often a Catholic church.

Vicar: A priest in charge of a church - often the Church of England - and the religious needs of people in a particular area.

Key Bible Verses:

Peter and the disciples 'built' the church after the events of Pentecost.

Matthew 16:18:

'And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church...'

Romans 12:

Paul gives guidance as to how the members of the body/church should behave:

"Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought."

"Love must be sincere."

"Be devoted to one another."

"Be joyful, patient, faithful."

"Live in harmony"

"Practice hospitality"

"Overcome evil with good"

Christianity is a world-wide, multicultural faith. Here are churches in Uganda, Jerusalem, Egypt and Austria:



Things you might find in a church.

- Altar:** The table at the very front of the church which holds the bread and wine.
- Cross:** This is the symbol of Christianity because Jesus died on a cross.
- Candle:** Candles are common in churches as they represent Jesus as the light of the world.
- Organ:** An instrument played to accompany traditional hymns.
- Musical Instruments:** Christians can worship God using a wide variety of instruments, from guitars to cellos.

Things you might find in a church.

- Foot:** This is where part of the Baptism service takes place. The font holds holy water.
- Sitting Area:** The people who come to church services are called the congregation and they sit here. Some churches have long wooden pews or individual chairs.
- Lectern:** Where the Bible sits. Readings are read from here during a service.
- Pulpit:** A raised platform from which the church leader can teach from the Bible.