

**GO TO MASS FOR
SOMEONE WHO CAN'T**



#GO2MASS

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED UK

Folder Resource for General/Core RE

Making progress in CORE RE

'Going to mass is the best thing you can do for a persecuted Christian' Discuss

Band	KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING
1	<input type="checkbox"/> I have included little relevant information <input type="checkbox"/> My understanding of some concepts is inaccurate <input type="checkbox"/> I have used very few technical terms <input type="checkbox"/> My communication is unclear and/or unorganised <input type="checkbox"/> My SPaG are often inadequate or inaccurate
2	<input type="checkbox"/> My writing shows that my knowledge and understanding on this subject are limited or often partially inaccurate <input type="checkbox"/> I have included some relevant material in my answer <input type="checkbox"/> I have used some technical terms <input type="checkbox"/> My communication has some clarity/organisation <input type="checkbox"/> My SPaG are often inadequate or inaccurate
3	<input type="checkbox"/> I have shown some accurate knowledge of this topic <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown some appropriate understanding <input type="checkbox"/> I have included information which is mostly relevant <input type="checkbox"/> I have used some technical terms correctly <input type="checkbox"/> My communication has some clarity <input type="checkbox"/> My SPaG are mostly accurate
4	<input type="checkbox"/> I have shown accurate knowledge and understanding through my writing <input type="checkbox"/> I have included wholly relevant information <input type="checkbox"/> I have used technical terms mostly accurate <input type="checkbox"/> My communication is generally clear and organised, and can be understood as a whole <input type="checkbox"/> My SPaG is good; very few minor errors
5	<input type="checkbox"/> I have shown accurate and wide ranging knowledge <input type="checkbox"/> I have demonstrated a very high ability to select and use relevant material in my writing <input type="checkbox"/> My use of technical terms is accurate and thorough <input type="checkbox"/> My answer is well constructed and organised <input type="checkbox"/> My SPaG are highly accurate
Band achieved:	

Band	DISCUSSION & ENGAGEMENT
1	<input type="checkbox"/> I made no effort to actively engage in the lesson
2	<input type="checkbox"/> I made minimal effort to actively engage in the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> I made minimal contributions to discussion
3	<input type="checkbox"/> I made some effort to actively engage in the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> I mostly listened to opinions of others rather than offer my own
4	<input type="checkbox"/> I made a good effort to actively engage in the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> I contributed my own ideas or opinions in discussion
5	<input type="checkbox"/> I made an excellent effort to actively engage in the lesson <input type="checkbox"/> I contributed my own opinions and actively listened to the opinions of others so as to engage in discussion with them
Band achieved:	

Band	EVALUATION & JUSTIFICATION
1	<input type="checkbox"/> I have shown little or no analysis or evaluation of these issues <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown no engagement with the topic <input type="checkbox"/> My own opinions are simply stated with no justification or explanation
2	<input type="checkbox"/> I have included some analysis/evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown minimal engagement with the topic or the issues discussed <input type="checkbox"/> My own opinions are stated with very little justification or explanation
3	<input type="checkbox"/> I have included some evaluation but it is not thorough and is often implicit <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown some slight engagement with the topic and the issues discussed <input type="checkbox"/> My own opinions have been justified at times but not always thoroughly
4	<input type="checkbox"/> I have included some successful and clear analysis of the topics/issues discussed <input type="checkbox"/> I have included some effective use of evidence to support this <input type="checkbox"/> My own opinions are explained, justified, and developed <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown clear engagement with this topic and the issues discussed
5	<input type="checkbox"/> My writing shows that I understand the demands of discussing this topic/issue <input type="checkbox"/> I have used a wide range of evidence <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown clear understanding of, and critical engagement with, different viewpoints <input type="checkbox"/> I have clearly expressed, supported, and evaluated my own opinions <input type="checkbox"/> I have shown a high level of engagement with this topic and the issues discussed
Band achieved:	

Measuring progress after GCSE:

- ☐ *Level 1 / Level 2:* sub-AS level
- ☐ *Level 3:* if you achieved a C grade at GCSE, you should be working on and above a level 3
- ☐ *Level 4:* if you achieved a B grade at GCSE, you should be working on and above a level 4
- ☐ *Level 5:* if you achieved an A/A* grade at GCSE, you should be working on a level 5

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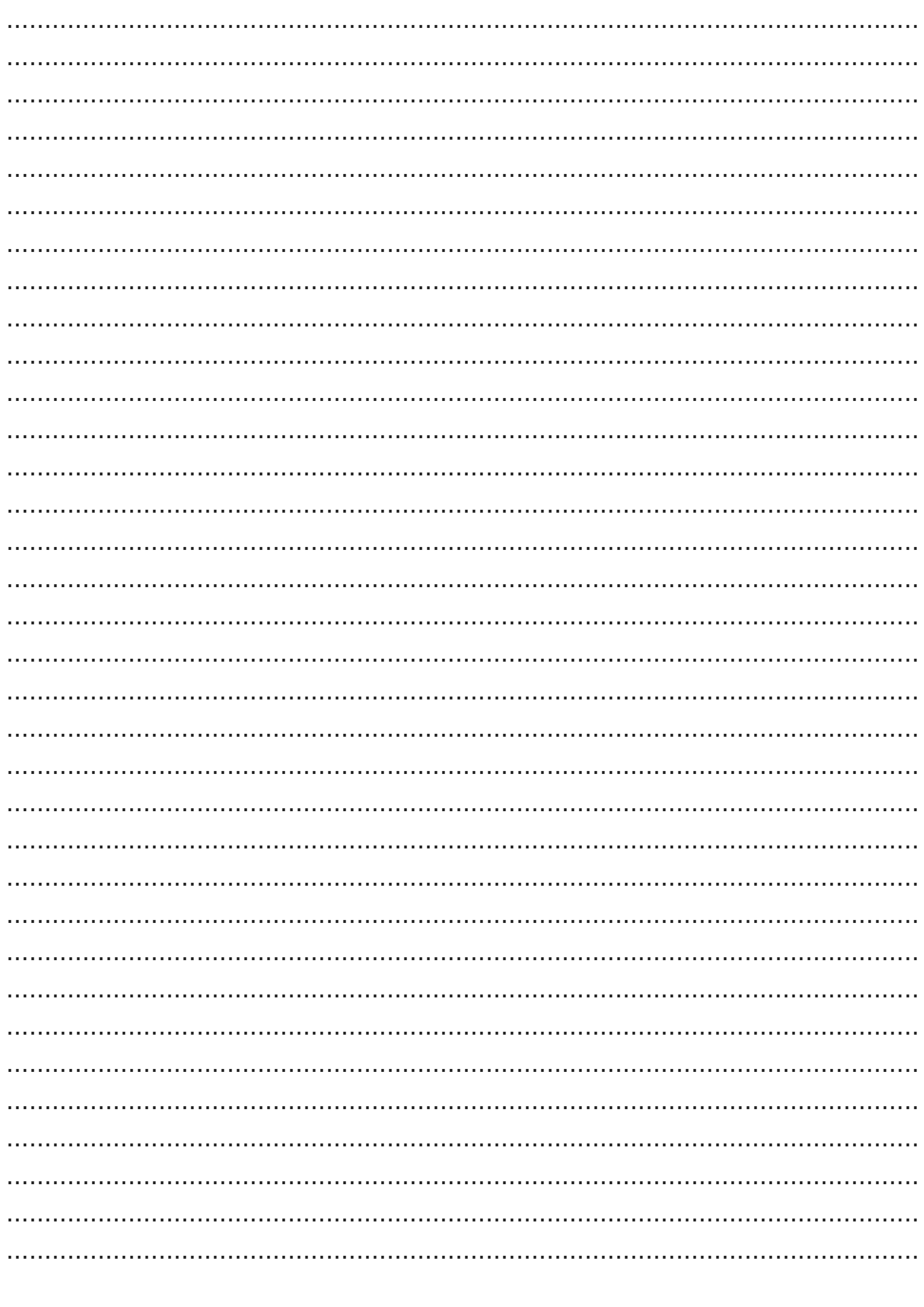


ASSESSMENT

Your teacher will assess your work from this unit and check that you are making progress.
You will receive a band for:
Knowledge and understanding
Evaluation and justification
Discussion

'Going to Mass is the best thing you can do for a persecuted Christian.' Discuss

Dotted lines for writing.





Free to Decide

Social Media

In a USA survey, 81% of those who replied said what they decided to buy was directly influenced by friends' social media posts (Forbes)

Consumers are 71% more likely to make a purchase based on social media referrals (Hubspot)



information overload

We can only take in a certain amount of information. If we have too much, our brains get stuck. This happens with the sheer amount of information available on the internet today



choices get harder the later it is
Studies have shown that "decision fatigue" makes it difficult to see all the aspects involved in making a difficult decision

See research on parole boards 2011 by researchers at Ben-Gurion University



hunger

The hungrier we are the more risks we take in our decisions



default (pre-selected option)

Often we don't want to make a decision so just stick with the default option if it's already been chosen for us



memories

What we remember easily affects our decisions more than other memories which are harder to recall

Social Conformity

To conform is to behave in a way that a group or society expects.

Social conformity involves a change in belief or behaviour in order to fit in with a group. Decisions are made because we want to 'fit in' or be liked or because we want to be right about things

music



How to influence your decisions in the supermarket:
classical music = people buy more expensive goods,
slow music = more time & more money spent,
loud music = less time in shop without affecting sales



"Your choices are made in a moment, and yet their consequences transcend a lifetime."

MJ DeMarco

priming



too much choice

Too much choice makes it harder to make a decision

When one thing has an effect on how we relate to something else. E.g. a person who sees the word "green" will be slightly faster to recognise the word "grass." In one study, two bottles of wine were filled with cheap red wine. Students were asked to rate the wines, telling them that one was expensive and one was cheap. The students used words like "complex and rounded," on the one they thought was expensive but the cheap wine as "weak and flat."

Frederic Brochet University of Bordeaux, 2001

Reason and Intuition

We have the ability to reason (using our brains & the information presented) to work out what decisions to make, but scientists think we have another system called 'the intuitive mind' which takes care of many decisions in a fast, automatic way. We are not aware of this process, (Prof Daniel Kahneman), and there are a number of biases which affect it.



powerful influences

More people in Britain had cosmetic surgery last year than ever before. Experts say it's because of celebrities such as the Kardashians. The 'Kardashian Effect' has made it acceptable.



"A wise man makes his own decisions, an ignorant man follows public opinion"
Chinese proverb

ego-depletion

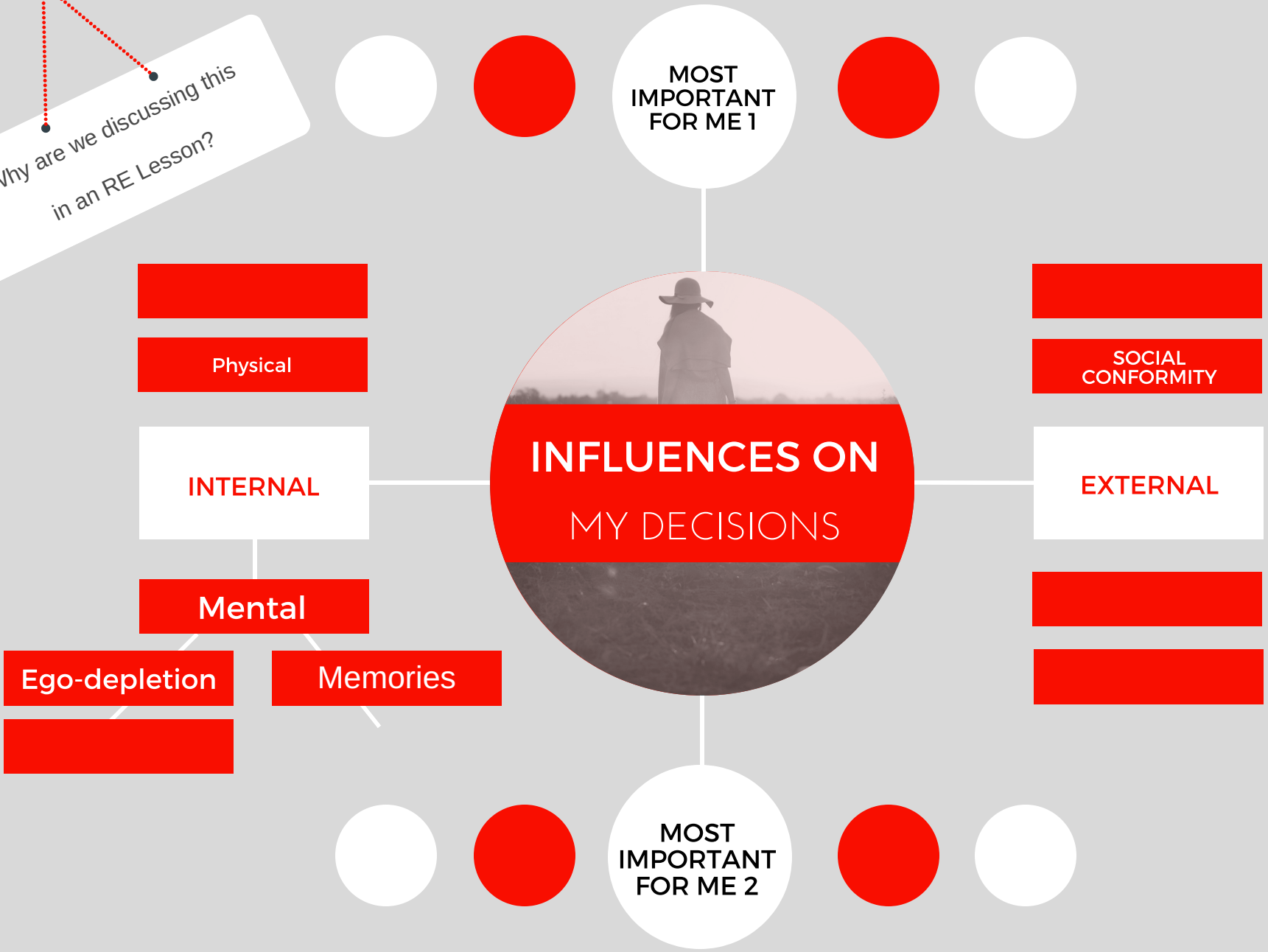
Discipline and self-control take up energy. If you have to be very self-controlled (not having chocolate or chips, being nice when you're tired, doing your homework), the psychologist Roy Baumeister suggests that this can 'use up' the focused control you may need for an important decision. Such decisions shouldn't be made in this case as your ego is depleted (the part of you that 'wills' is drained or worn out).



decisions



Why are we discussing this
in an RE Lesson?





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decisions



reality

surely we know what it is..?

It's everything that actually exists, but does this mean a) everything that there is, whether or not it is observable, accessible or understandable by science, philosophy or any other system of analysis b) the views and experiences of a group of people c) we will live and die and that's it d) anything I want it to be. See below for some other ideas and questions about reality:



'ultimate reality'

We can only take in a certain amount of information. If we have too much, our brains get stuck. This happens with the sheer amount of information available on the internet today



Metaphysics = beyond physical

focuses on the nature of reality / attempts to find unity between experience and thought / has five strands: idealism, realism, pragmatism (sometimes called experientialism), existentialism and Scholasticism



consensus reality

Beliefs about reality are formed by the collective views and experiences of a group of people

realism

Aristotle said reality is the world of physical objects & exists independent of the human mind. The focus is on the body/objects. Truth is objective-what can be observed. He championed the scientific method



anti-realism

the theory there is no objective reality, whether acknowledged explicitly or not

nothing is real

Reality simply doesn't exist. Quantum theory shows that simply observing something changes the result, for example, The Double Slit experiment suggests that there are various realities, and every possible outcome takes place in a parallel universe. Each observer throughout the different universes would therefore see something different in the experiment.

This would mean that there are endless versions of 'reality'. This leads people to question whether the human mind itself is real. The mind develops moment by moment. These moments can be divided into past, present and future moments. There is no single mind



"If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?" Does it exist even if there is no one to see, touch, smell or hear it?

George Berkeley said: "to be is to be perceived"



"Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one."

— Albert Einstein

"Distinctions drawn by the mind are not necessarily equivalent to distinctions in reality."

- St Thomas Aquinas

"Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced."

— Søren Kierkegaard

"Imagination is the only weapon in the war against reality."

— Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland



existentialism

The world around us has no intrinsic meaning outside of human existence. Reality is subjective, so personal choice is fundamental. Existence comes before any definition of what we are. Kierkegaard is considered to be the founder of existentialism. Jean Paul Sartre said the existential moment was when a young person realises they must answer the questions: "Who am I and what should I do?"

scholasticism/ thomism

Brings together idealist and realist philosophies, so the thought of Aristotle is fused with Thomas Aquinas. The logical and philosophical study of the beliefs of the Church is encouraged, as is scientific inquiry and religious belief

brain in a vat (jar)

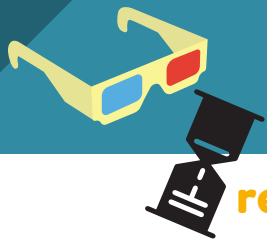
A mad scientist has removed your brain, puts it into a jar and keeps it linked to a computer which sends your brain information to trick you into thinking that you are still walking around in your body. How do you know that you are not a brain in a vat? For some, the conclusion is that, from the perspective of the brain itself, it is impossible to tell whether it is a brain in a vat or a brain in a skull.



artificial intelligence

Apple, IBM and Google are investing in AI. Everyday AI examples include iPhone Siri and Microsoft Windows 10 Cortana. What are the ethics of AI?

It is thought that by 2040, computers will be as smart as humans. Already the Henn-na hotel in Japan which is staffed by robots. What will the world be like when A.I can experience empathy?



what's real?



reality measured by:

TIME

Time provides us with a measure of change by putting dates on moments, fixing the duration of events, and specifying which events happen before which other events. In order to do that, some method of time measurement is needed. The science or art of the accurate measurement of time is known as chronometry. A clock that is so accurate it will lose just one second in 16 billion years has been created by scientists.

Time Questions

1. Why is it so difficult to imagine time not existing?
2. Why do you think time seems to slow down when you are bored and speed up when you are having fun?
3. What do you think of the suggestion that time is relative? (that it changes depending on where you are?)



Aristotle thought that we find the truth from evidence gained from the world around us.

Hume disagreed with the rationalists - he thought that there are no 'innate ideas' and felt that 'custom' was the guide to life.

"Things in themselves are unknowable." **Immanuel Kant**. Kant maintained that there are two worlds: the world of experiences that we sense through our bodies and the world as it is in itself.

Descartes said we must accept nothing as true, "It is necessary that at least once in your life, you doubt as far as possible, all things." There is no certainty for Descartes except that I exist because I am thinking." What would Descartes say to 'Alexia' or even more advanced Artificial Intelligence?

Does this change the real world?



Yes, because so many people are spending so much time in the unreal world - Second Life has nearly half a million inhabitants in a week and the online game World of Warcraft, has 10 million active subscribers who pay to participate. People spend on average about 20 hours a week in alternate worlds like these. (see Kristina Dell)

A study found that 45% of young people are happier online than in real life. One told researchers: 'It's easier to be who you want to be, because nobody knows you and if you don't like the situation you can just exit and it is over.' Another said: 'You can say anything online. You can talk to people that you don't normally speak to and you can edit your pictures so you look better. It is as if you are a completely different person.' Do you think parents should be concerned about these findings?

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1354702/Children-happier-virtual-lives-real->

GOOD TIMES

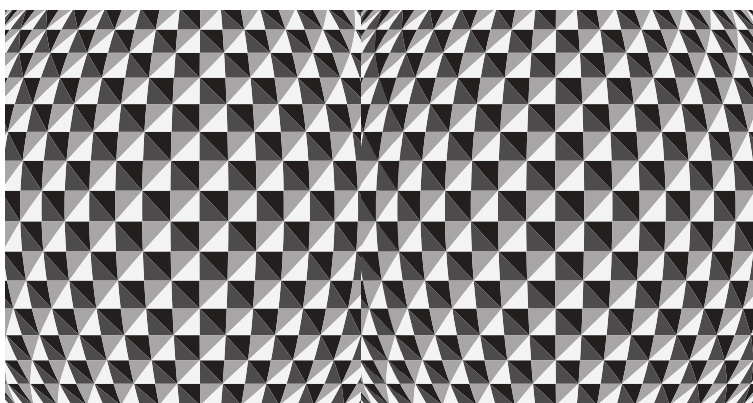
epistemology

This branch of philosophy is the study of nature and the limits of knowledge. It asks 'How can we know?' and is focused on how we come to know what we know. Does everything we know just come from experience or is some knowledge innate (instinctive, inborn) and is it possible to know something just through reasoning. This is important because we have to be able to rely on the knowledge we in order to grasp of reality, whilst also understanding the limits of what we can know.



seeing is believing

Researchers have warned that virtual reality (VR) can cause behavioural changes in people that last even after they leave the virtual world. Research being done at Stanford University's Virtual Human Interaction Lab (VHIL) by J. Bailenson suggests that the qualities you acquire online — whether it's confidence or insecurity — can spill over and change your conduct in the real world, often without your awareness. In a Stanford study, female participants who had provocatively dressed avatars tended to agree with rape myths more than the women with the non-sexualized avatars. "When we cloak ourselves in avatars, it subtly alters the manner in which we behave," says Bailenson. In other experiments, people assigned to an avatar who is running on a treadmill temporarily increase their physical activity. Why is this significant?



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

"THEY ARE BEING TESTED IN FAITH, WE ARE BEING TESTED IN LOVE"

APRIL 2017: Christian woman Dorkas Zakka was among 12 people killed by Fulani herdsmen who interrupted an Easter Vigil Mass in Kafanchan state, northern Nigeria.

Targeting St John's Catholic Church, in Asso town, the anti-Christian Fulani chased the young mother back to her home and killed her on her kitchen floor. Another nine faithful were killed as they ran out of the church.

St John's parish priest Father Alexander Yeyock told Aid to the Church in Need: "I was celebrating Mass... then there was sporadic shooting."

Condemning the military for failing to protect the Christian village, he said: "The military were there during the Easter Vigil attack... they didn't do anything. They allowed the Fulani herdsmen in."



Christians have found shelter from Boko Haram in this displacement camp in Maiduguri, northern Nigeria

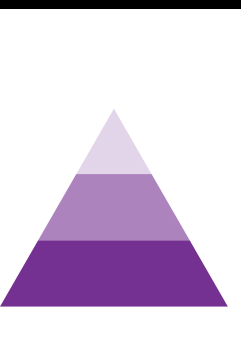
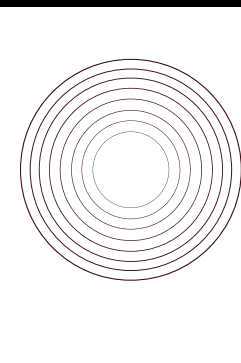
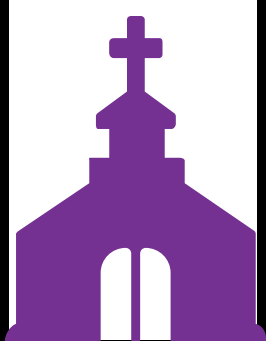
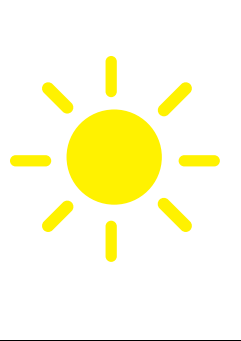


Those forced out of their homes by Boko Haram are also being cared for at St James Church, Yola.

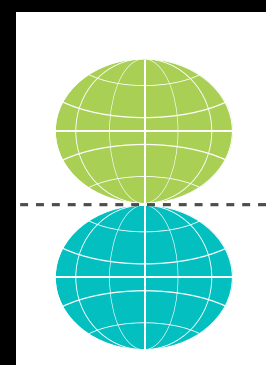
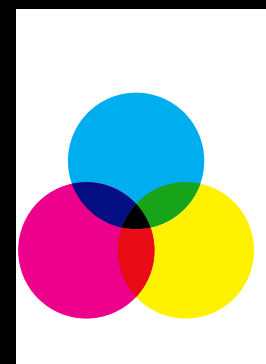
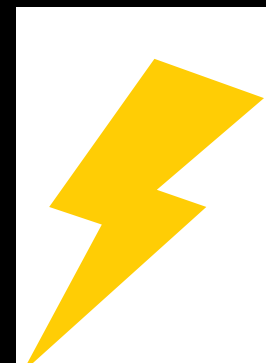


Aid to the
Church in Need

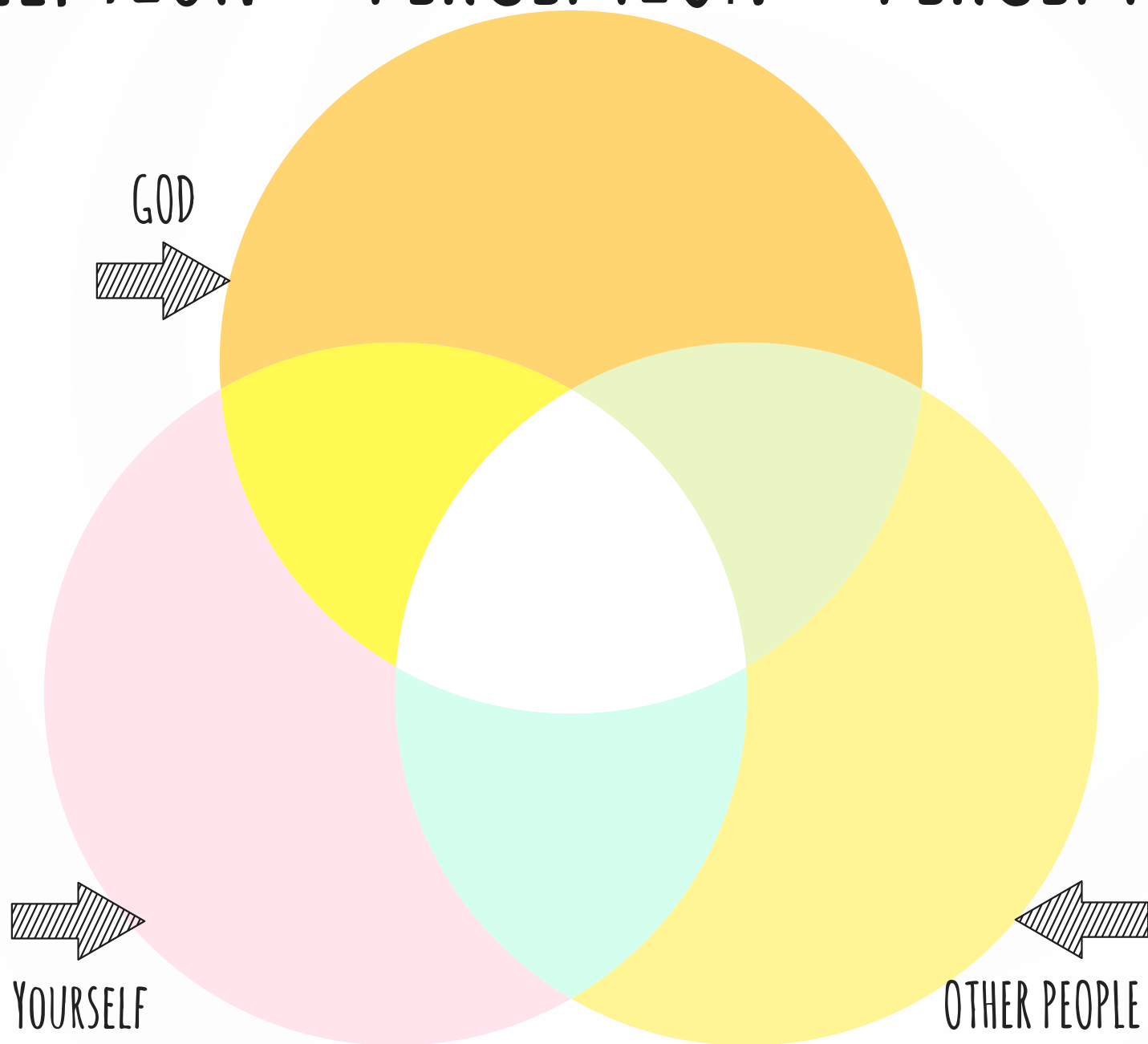
ACN UNITED KINGDOM



BUILD A GOD



PERCEPTION PERCEPTION PERCEPTION



1. In each circle, write the factors which you think can distort your perception of yourself, others and God.
2. Compare your ideas with a partner.
3. Why is it vital that we:
 - a] are honest to ourselves
 - b] look behind the masks other people may be wearing
 - c] ask the Holy Spirit for help to meet God as he really is.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

WOW!

"SEEK NOT TO
UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MAY
BELIEVE, BUT BELIEVE
THAT YOU MAY UNDERSTAND."

SAINT AUGUSTINE

LOW

LIKE



"God gives us
just enough evidence, so
that those who want
him can have him."
Peter Kreeft

"And as He spoke, He no longer looked to them like a lion; but the things that began to happen after that were so great and beautiful that I cannot write them. And for us this the end of all the stories, and we can most truly say that they all lived happily ever after. But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and the title page: now at last they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story which no one on earth has read: which goes on for ever: in which every chapter is better than the one before."

C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. God's Wisdom Revealed by the Spirit. We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we declare God's wisdom a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written:

YES!



"Indeed, when love and the search for beauty spring from a dimension of faith, one can penetrate the depth of things and come into contact with the One who is the source of everything that is beautiful.

Reality, with its beauty, makes one feel the beginning of the fulfillment and seems to whisper to us: 'You will not be unhappy; the desire of your heart will be fulfilled, what is more, it is already being fulfilled.'"

'Beauty Opens Spirit to
Mystery of God'
Pope St John Paul II
Message to Meeting of
Communion and Liberation.
AUGUST 20, 2002

What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived the things God has prepared for those who love him — these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

1 CORINTHIANS 2: 1-15

YEAH!

PERCEPTION



LESSON 4: REFLECTION

WHO GOD ISN'T

When did you first hear about God?

Who told you?

Who was that person to you?

What was it like when you went to Church?

Did you like the priest?

If you went to a Catholic primary school, what were your teachers like when they talked about God?

What were they people you associated with God or religion like?

How did your RE teachers relate to you?

Did important people in your life not believe or struggle with belief?

Did you pray and nothing seemed to happen?

Did you pray for something not to happen and it did?

Do you sometimes feel guilty or fear or just apathy when you think of God?

What were your Confirmation classes like?

If you've ever been on a retreat or pilgrimage did you feel you met God there?

IS IT EASY TO HAVE OUR OPINION OF GOD CLOUDED BY

SOME OF THE PEOPLE WE HAVE MET?

HAVE YOU EVER MET A TRULY HOLY OR A THOROUGHLY GOOD PERSON?

HOW DID THEY MAKE YOU FEEL?

MASS MEDITATION

Our sins would define us for ever and our weaknesses would overwhelm us. From our perspective, God can seem a bit crazy; he becomes sin, death, small, weak and allows himself to be defeated, so we don't have to.

Now God's unexpected ways of doing things continues today. God could appear in the sky or take over the internet for everyone to see him and prove his existence. Again, if I were God, I'd probably drawn to this idea! But God's vision is vast, eternal and all-loving. **God's plan is beyond our understanding.** He planned to stay with us forever after the resurrection. He kept this promise, but just like his birth, death and resurrection he does so in a way that we'd never have guessed.

If you walked up to someone in the street today and said, "Come and meet God", yes God, the one who made you. Obviously they would think you were not sane, as they thought about Jesus himself. If you took that person to Mass and you told them that Jesus is present, what would they think? After seeing the Eucharist raised up by the priest at Mass, the stranger may say; "that was God? – it certainly didn't look like God." Why would he be in something that looks like a wafer?

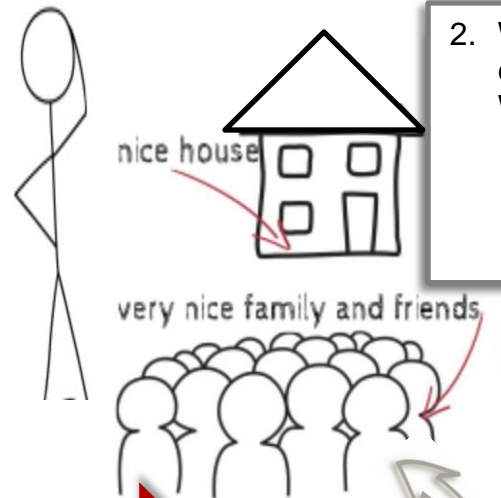
Looks can be deceiving. Some of the people at the time Jesus was alive didn't believe he was God because he didn't fit into their preconceived ideas about what the saviour would be like. **But those who opened their hearts, like Mary at the resurrection, recognised him.** We all have preconceived ideas about what God should look like. We even like to think we know how God should act in the world. When "God" doesn't do what I think he should be doing, I can be tempted to say, "ahh, you see, he doesn't exist!"

The challenge is to open our hearts, like those who followed Jesus and open our minds like to the one who is real - reality itself. When we don't go beyond our own expectations, we reduce God to 'my image of what God should be'. Now even the most intelligent among us have limitations – is that all God is, a construct of what I want him to be? Rejected when he doesn't live up to my expectations? In a human relationship where there is love, we are surprised, amazed and delighted when we are allowed to be ourselves and when we get to know the 'real' other person. People describe there being layers of depth in another, whether it be a parent with a child, a couple in love or among friends. You think you know all there is to know about a person and then you realise there's much more, even greater depths to that person and to yourself when you are with them. How much more is there with God.

What are the depths of God that are there for us to discover? Do we allow God to be God in our lives or do we not allow God to be 'the real God' the same way some people don't accept 'the real us'?

Thought Experiment

Questions



2. When things are going well it's easy to forget about faith. Why is this?



6. What is all this about?

finish

1. Why do people spend their lives searching for relatives they have never known, like in *Long Lost Family*? Why do they put so much energy into this when there are no guarantees that the person will be found? Why is this relevant when discussing God?

5. Write one thing someone said about God which has influenced, confused or helped you?

3. Influences can be positive or negative. Why is it as important to know who is trying to influence you as it is to know why (for my good or for their good)? Consider these examples:

- Mass media does influence us all. Smoking used to be seen on TV as cool, sophisticated and glamorous. How has this changed in a relatively short time?
- Influencer marketing is used by some companies. The aim here is to identify those who have influence over potential buyers, and market the product to these individuals, rather than the whole target market. Why is this significant?
- A government document states: "*Influencing behaviour is central to public policy. Recently, there have been major advances in understanding the influences on our behaviours, and the government needs to take notice of them.*" Why might some people be uncomfortable with the idea of the government influencing behavior? Why would others see this as positive for society?

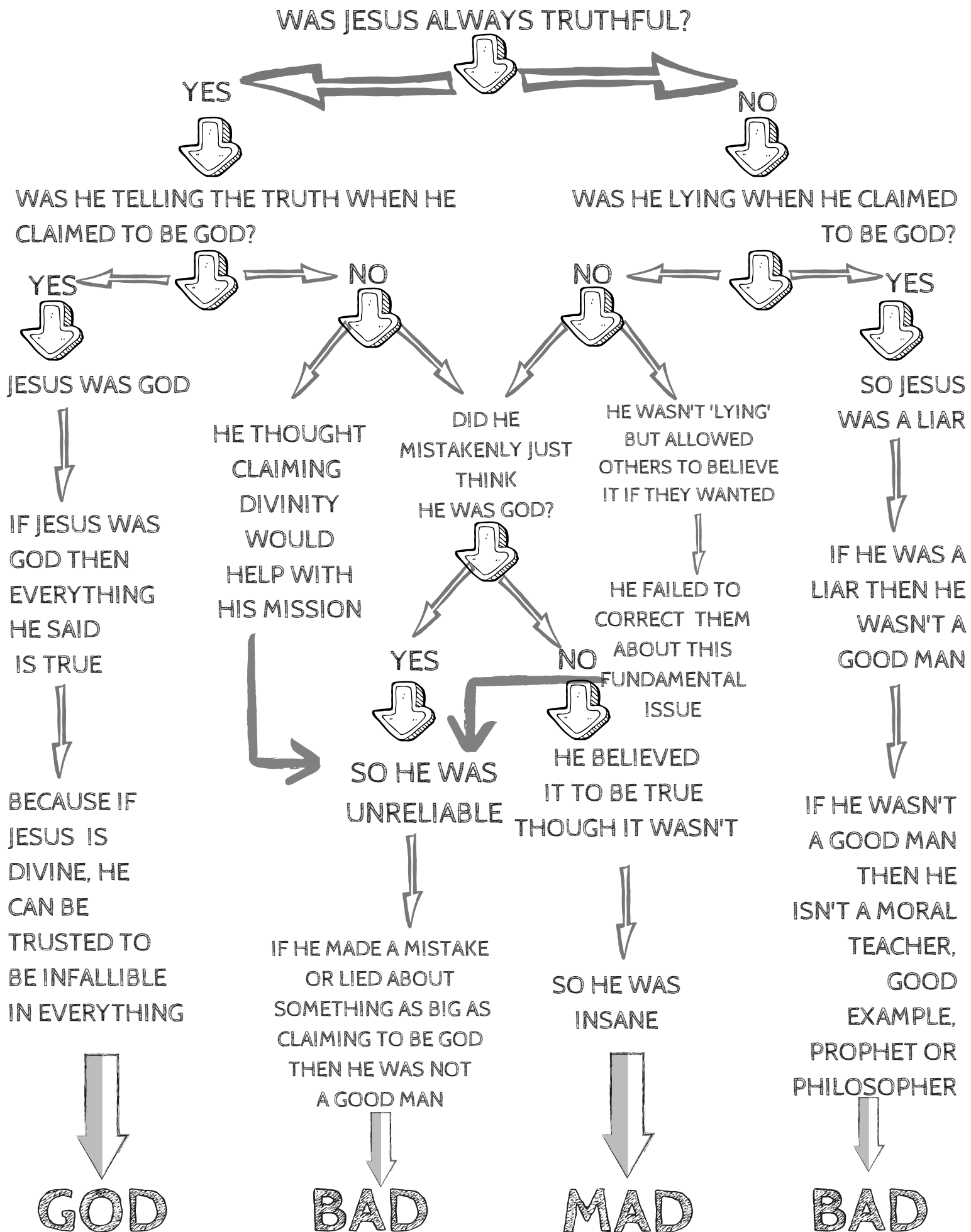
<https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/>

4. Do you think the portrayal of religious people in the media is balanced and fair?



● mad, bad or God ●

When Jesus said "I am he..." did he believe he was God?



Starter Task: Lesson 4A: Truth and Lies (GREEN GROUP)

IN GROUPS OF 4, SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS OF TWO. THE FIRST GROUP OF TWO ARE REDS (your opponents) AND THE SECOND GROUP OF TWO ARE THE GREENS (that's you).

WITH YOUR PARTNER, YOUR TASK IS TO COME UP WITH THREE STORIES WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE. THEY ARE GOING TO TRY TO SPOT WHEN THE YOU ARE LYING.

RULES

1. Your true and false stories must be about you
2. The fabricated stories must be convincing enough to be true
3. You can decide to make all of your stories true, false or a mixture of true and false
4. You can work in with your partner and have three stories between you or you can have two or three each (depending on the timing of the lesson).
5. If you manage to deceive your opponents then you win (though obviously this is not something to be condoned in real life!)

YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER

1. Your body language
2. The way you speak – as in the kind of words you use
3. How well your opponents know you. If you know your opponents very well (you are close friends or have been in the same class for years), then you will have to think of stories about you that they wouldn't know; maybe about your family, something that happened when you were younger (before you met them) etc.

You can write down some notes about your stories in the space below and once you have said them, write a couple of notes about whether it was easy or difficult and at the end whether you succeeded in your attempts to deceive.

STORY NAME	KEY POINTS	DIFFICULTY LEVEL 1=REALLY EASY TO 10 =REALLY DIFFICULT	SCORE:

Starter Task: Lesson 4A: Truth and Lie (RED GROUP)

IN GROUPS OF 4, SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS OF TWO. THE FIRST GROUP OF TWO CAN BE THE REDS (that's you) AND THE SECOND GROUP OF TWO (your opponents) ARE THE GREENS. YOUR TASK IS TO TRY AND SPOT WHEN THE GREENS ARE LYING. SOME OF THESE TIPS MAY HELP YOU. READ CAREFULLY, WATCH YOUR OPPONENTS CLOSELY AND LISTEN TO THE WORDS THEY USE. THEY WILL EACH TELL YOU 2 STORIES, INCIDENTS, OR RECOLLECTIONS. WHEN THEY HAVE DONE SO, DECIDE WITH YOUR PARTNER, HOW MANY ARE TRUE.

(Both of the articles below are taken from @MailOnline on Twitter | DailyMail on Facebook)

Noah Zandan, a science communicator, uses a technique called linguistic text analysis (which is based on the difference between how we structure the truth, and lies – can help people spot untruths) and then applies this technology to video recordings of famous lies. Linguistic text analysis helps people spot four common patterns in the subconscious language of lying. In his TED talk Noah explained that liars tend to refer to themselves less in a story. Other factors he discovered are that liars:

1. Tend to refer to themselves less in a story that isn't true
2. Sometimes use hypothetical situations
3. Mention others more than usual
4. Often use negative terms, because they are subconsciously feeling guilty, 'for example, a liar might say: "Sorry, my stupid phone battery died. I hate that thing," (Mr Zanden)
5. Overly-simplified stories because humans find it hard to construct and keep track of complex lies
6. May have simple stories but tend to use longer, convoluted sentences
7. Add in irrelevant but factual-sounding details in a bid to make a story sound more convincing
8. Typically mention themselves less and talk more about others in a lie
9. Sometimes use the third person to disassociate themselves from their lie, because they feel subconsciously guilty
10. Tend to be more negative because on a subconscious level they feel guilty about lying

Read more and see the video at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2821767/The-language-LYING-Expert-reveals-tiny-clues-way-people-talk-reveal-withholding-truth.html#ixzz4rEWFCUeY>

JUDI JAMES' NINE WAYS TO SPOT A LIAR

Other researchers show that body language can reveal when a person isn't being truthful. Body language expert Judi James has revealed the key signs to look out for if you're concerned that someone is lying. These signs can help you spot a liar, but isn't, she stresses, a set formula.

1. **The big pause:** Lying is quite a complex process for the body and brain to deal with. First your brain produces the truth which it then has to suppress before inventing the lie and the performance of that lie. This often leads to a longer pause than normal before answering, plus a verbal stalling technique like 'Why do you ask that?' rather than a direct and open response.
2. **The eye dart:** Humans have more eye expressions than any other animal and our eyes can give away if we're trying to hide something. When we look up to our left to think we're often accessing recalled memory, but when our eyes roll up to our right we can be thinking more creatively. Also, the guilt of a lie often makes people use an eye contact cut-off gesture, such as looking down or away.
3. **The lost breath:** Bending the truth causes an instant stress response in most people, meaning the fight or flight mechanisms are activated. The mouth dries, the body sweats more, the pulse rate quickens and the rhythm of the breathing changes to shorter, shallower breaths that can often be both seen and heard.
4. **Overcompensating:** A liar will often over-perform, both speaking and gesticulating too much in order to be more convincing. These over the top body language rituals can involve too much eye contact (often without blinking!) and over-emphatic gesticulation.
5. **The poker face:** Although some people prefer to employ the poker face, many assume less is more and almost shut down in terms of movement and eye contact when they're being economical with the truth.
6. **The face hide:** When someone tells a lie they often suffer a strong desire to hide their face from their audience. This can lead to a partial cut-off gesture like the well-known nose touch or mouth-cover.
7. **Actions to alleviate stress:** The stress and discomfort of lying often produces gestures that are aimed at comforting the liar, such as rocking, hair-stroking or twiddling or playing with wedding rings. We all tend to use self-comfort gestures but this will increase dramatically when someone is fibbing.
8. **Micro-gestures:** These are very small gestures or facial expressions that can flash across the face so quickly they are difficult to see. Experts will often use filmed footage that is then slowed down to pick up on the true body language response emerging in the middle of the performed lie. The best time to spot these in real life is to look for the facial expression that occurs after the liar has finished speaking. The mouth might skew or the eyes roll in an instant give-away.
9. **Heckling hands:** The hardest body parts to act with are the hands or feet and liars often struggle to keep them on-message while they lie. When the gestures and the words are at odds it's called incongruent gesticulation and it's often the hands or feet that are telling the truth.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-4323860/Body-language-expert-reveals-nine-ways-spot-liar.html#ixzz4rEXKB9ZG>

JESUS' MIRACLES
ARE NOT MEANT
TO BE TAKEN
LITERALLY

Being a Christian
is not all
that demanding

RELIGION SHOULD
BE A PRIVATE
THING

FREEDOM IS
DOING WHAT
YOU WANT

FAITH IS ABOUT
BEING A GOOD
PERSON
AND A BIT
SPIRITUAL

Jesus' love and
compassion meant
that he let people
do what they wanted

The disciples must
have made up the
resurrection

You don't have
to make time for
prayer - it's in your
heart

YOU HAVE TO MAKE
YOUR OWN DECISIONS.
THERE AREN'T ANY
OUTSIDE INFLUENCES
REALLY.

SCIENCE AND
RELIGION ARE
INCOMPATIBLE

Jesus is no
different to lots of
other inspirational
leaders in history

Only observation
and experimentation
can decide what
is real

There isn't really a
set right/wrong -
it's what feels
right at the time

There's no
evidence for
the resurrection

JESUS TAUGHT
US HOW TO LIVE
BUT WASN'T GOD

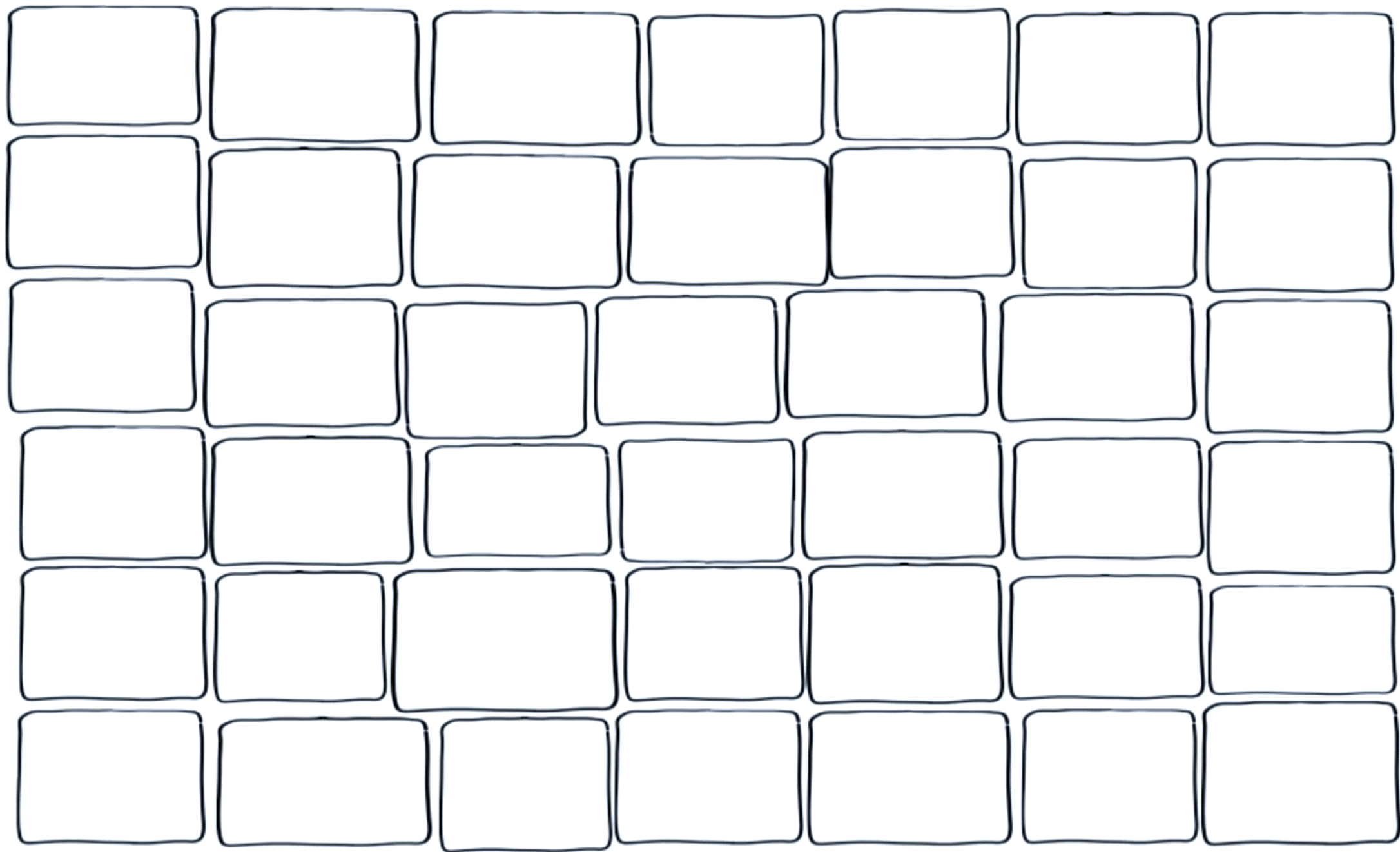
Jesus was just
a good moral
teacher

JESUS DIDN'T
CLAIM TO
BE GOD

SURELY I CAN BE A
CHRISTIAN
BY FOLLOWING MY
CONSCIENCE ALONE?

GOD'S LOVE
MEANS SIN
DOESN'T REALLY
MATTER

JESUS SEEMS A
BIT BORING



REFLECTION ON “UNANSWERED PRAYERS”:



How can I pray to God when I am so disappointed in him? I am often angry at God because it feels like nothing I do ever works out. It feels hypocritical to then just go and tell God that everything is OK. Things aren't OK in my life!

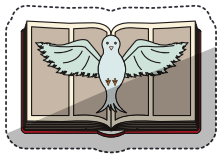


“First, amazing question. I am certain that your question arises from a heart that has been broken in some way. Please know of my prayers for you and for anyone reading this column who is suffering defeat at this moment. You are not alone. You have brothers and sisters in Christ, and you have a God who is on your side.

Your question zeroes in on the most important issue we must face: Can we really trust God? The Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard believed this question was so vital that he put it forth in words like these: “It is not so important to know whether God exists or not; what is important is to know whether He is love or not.” As a Catholic, you know that God is love. Because you are in Christ, you know the story; you know that God has made his decision. He is on your side. And yet, what do we do when things crash around us? Do you know that you can take your tears to God? Do you know that he actually wants us to bring our broken hearts and broken dreams to him? We can get it out of our heads that God only wants us to tell him our good news. Our spiritual parents, the Jewish people, have given us an entire spiritual genre called Lamentation. This is the raw and honest cry of a people who cried out to God: “We thought you were on our side! Why have you forgotten your promises? Why have you abandoned us?” This book is in the Bible. That means that the Holy Spirit inspired these words of complaint. This means that it is clear that God does not merely want our praise; he wants our pain as well. These same prayers (as well as those found in the book of Psalms) show us how we can bring these complaints to God. First, they are honest. The authors of Sacred Scripture did not sugarcoat their pain or frustration. (“How long, O Lord? Will you forget your people forever?”) Rather, they trusted God enough to tell him the truth. You can begin by bringing God into your situation as it is. Second, while the Jews were strikingly aware of their present condition, they never forgot that God had blessed them in the past. In their prayer, they specifically praised God and thanked him for the good things they had received from him. In my experience, it is very easy to think that all that God has done in my life is instantly canceled* out when I am in distress. The Bible reminds us that we must not forget that the God who has guided and cared for us in the past will continue guiding and caring for us today. In your prayer, be just as specific with your praise as you are with your pain. In this way, the “God, I’m so lonely” is eventually followed by “Thank you for giving me the friendship of my brother when I felt all alone last year.” Third, make an act of trust in God. It is important to remember that the act of trust is not in yourself or in fate or in the healing effect of time. Sometimes my prayer for the future centers* around those three things. I say to myself: “I know if I just try harder, it’ll be better,” or “Things will start looking up. They’ve just got to. I’m a good person,” or “Someday this pain won’t sting as much. I’ll just wait until that day.” Remember, God is on your side. He is faithful even when we are not faithful. Because of this, we place our trust in him, not in ourselves or anything else. A great example of this is Psalm 3, a psalm of David. David was the king of Israel. He was the one chosen by God. And yet, he endured tremendous pain and betrayal. Psalm 3 is entitled (in my Bible) “Threatened but Trusting.” And the subscript that describes the occasion when David wrote this psalm is: “When David fled for his life from his son Absalom.” Here is a man who was trying to do God’s will (imperfectly), and his own son was chasing him down with thousands of troops. The Bible was not authored by individuals sitting in ivory towers, untouched by anguish, but by people who experienced the worst that life has to offer and still turned to God. You are chosen by God as well. You can do the same.”

Father Schmitz is director of youth and young adult ministry for the Diocese of Duluth and chaplain of the Newman Center* at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Reach him at fathermikeschmitz@gmail.co

[AMERICAN SPELLING AS THE AUTHOR, FR MICHEAL SCHMITZ IS AMERICAN)



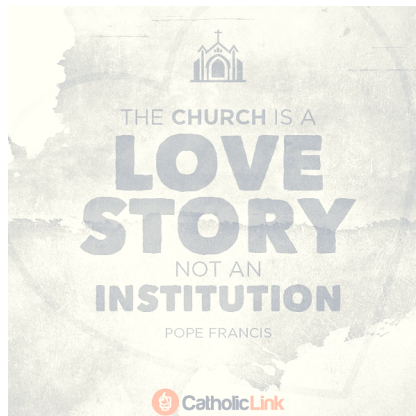
Pope Francis:

"Each of us is GOD'S LOVE STORY"



FROM THE VATICAN. ADAPTED FROM DIANE MONTAGNA | MAY 17, 2017

"EVERY PERSON IS A LOVE STORY THAT GOD WRITES ON THIS EARTH," POPE FRANCIS SAID TODAY, AS HE REFLECTED ON THE FIGURE OF MARY MAGDALENE



Addressing an estimated 15,000 faithful in St. Peter's Square, the pope said that Mary Magdalene shows us how intensely personal our relationship with the Lord is meant to be. In his catechesis, he said when Mary Magdalene came to the tomb, "her eyes full of tears," God "surprised her in the most unexpected way." Although she first thought Jesus was the gardener, she "discovered the most overwhelming event in human history" when Jesus "called her by name: 'Mary!'" "How beautiful it is to consider that the first appearance of the Risen One — happened in such a personal way! There is Someone who knows us, who sees our suffering and disappointments, who is moved by us, and who calls us by name. It is a law that we find carved into many pages of the Gospel. There are many people around Jesus who are looking for God. But the most wonderful reality is that, long before, God is the first one who cares about our lives, who wants to lift up our lives; and to do this he calls us by name, recognizing the personal face of each of us. Every man is a love story that God writes on this earth. Each of us is God's love story. God calls each of us by name: he knows us by name, he watches us, he waits for us, he forgives us, he is patient with us."

In calling Mary Magdalene by name, Jesus brings about the "revolution of her life," the pope continued. "She changed because she saw the Lord," and this revolution is "destined to transform the existence of every man and woman." Jesus doesn't give joy with an "eyedropper" The pope noted how the Gospels describe Mary's happiness. "The Resurrection of Jesus is not a joy given with an eyedropper, but rather a cascade that overflows into all of life," he said. "Christian life is not woven with fluffy happiness, but with waves that overwhelm everything. Try to think, all of you, right now, with the bag of disappointments and defeats that each of us carries in our hearts, that there is a God who is near us and who calls each of us by name, and says: 'Arise, weep no more, for I have come to free you!' This is beautiful." Jesus does not "adapt to the world, tolerating death, sadness, hatred, and the moral destruction of people," the pope continued. "Our God is not inert; rather, our God — if I may use the word— is a 'dreamer': He dreams of the transformation of the world, and he has accomplished it the mystery of the Resurrection." Pope Francis concluded: "I have changed my life because I have seen the Lord. Now I am different from before; I am another person. I have changed my life because I have seen the Lord. This is our strength and this is our hope."



Dear young people:

BE REVOLUTIONARIES



POPE FRANCIS AT WORLD YOUTH DAY

"REBEL AGAINST THIS CULTURE THAT SEES EVERYTHING AS TEMPORARY."

"GOD HAS PLACED IN THE HEART OF EVERY MAN AND WOMAN AN IRREPRESSIBLE DESIRE FOR HAPPINESS, FOR FULFILLMENT,"



FROM THE VATICAN, 31 JANUARY 2015
CHARLES COLLINS

Pope Francis writes the search for happiness is shared by people of all times and all ages.

"Dear young men and women, in Christ you find fulfilled your every desire for goodness and happiness," continues the Holy Father. "He alone can satisfy your deepest longings, which are so often clouded by deceptive worldly promises."

The Pope calls on young people to not let the "precious treasure" of the ability to love and beloved to be debased, destroyed or spoiled.

"In encouraging you to rediscover the beauty of the human vocation to love, I also urge you to rebel against the widespread tendency to reduce love to something banal, reducing it to its sexual aspect alone, deprived of its essential characteristics of beauty, communion, fidelity and responsibility," writes Pope Francis.

I ask you, instead, to be revolutionaries, I ask you to swim against the tide;

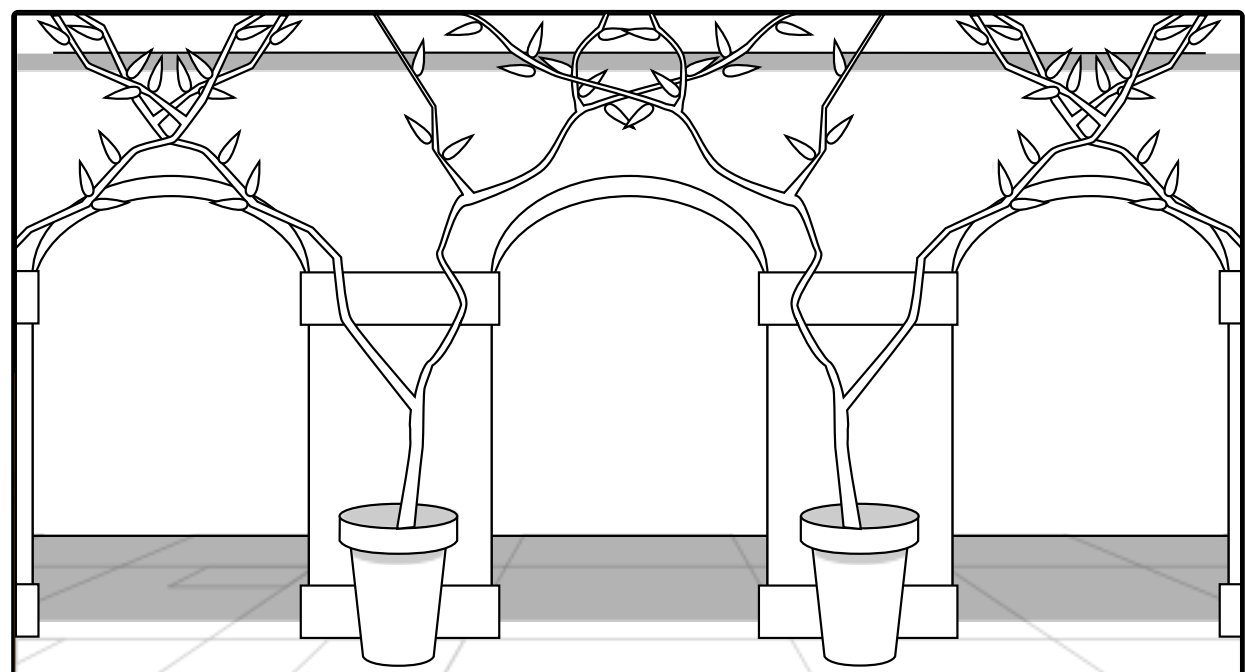
yes, I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes you are incapable of responsibility, that believes you are incapable of true love."

The Pope also invites young people to encounter Christ in the Scriptures, by reading a line or two of the Gospels each day.

"You will discover that God can be 'seen' also in the face of your brothers and sisters, especially those who are most forgotten: the poor, the hungry, those who thirst, strangers, the sick, those imprisoned (cf. Mt 25:31-46). Have you ever had this experience?" writes the Pope.

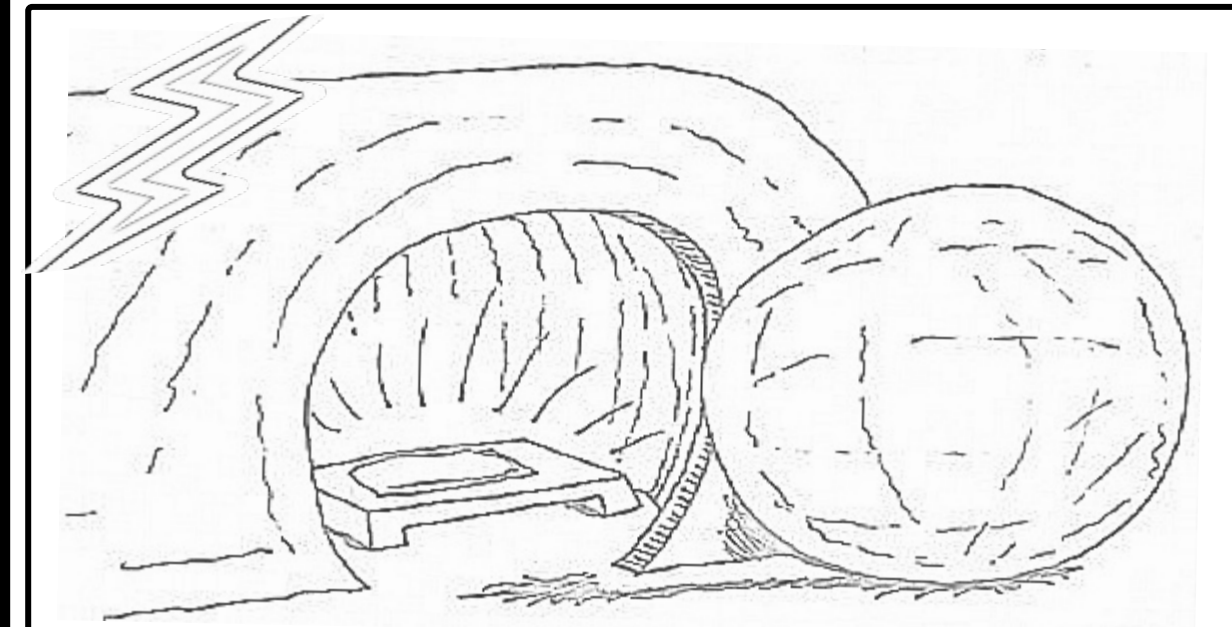
"Dear young people, in order to enter into the logic of the Kingdom of Heaven, we must recognize that we are poor with the poor," Pope Francis continues. "A pure heart is necessarily one which has been stripped bare, a heart that knows how to bend down and share its life with those most in need."

Did Jesus actually exist? Are there reliable historical records?

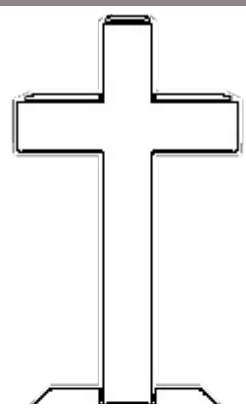


Even if he did actually exist, how do we know he wasn't just a respected teacher or a good person who helped people?

What about the resurrection, is there any 'evidence'?



What does it mean to say that Christianity is not an ideology?

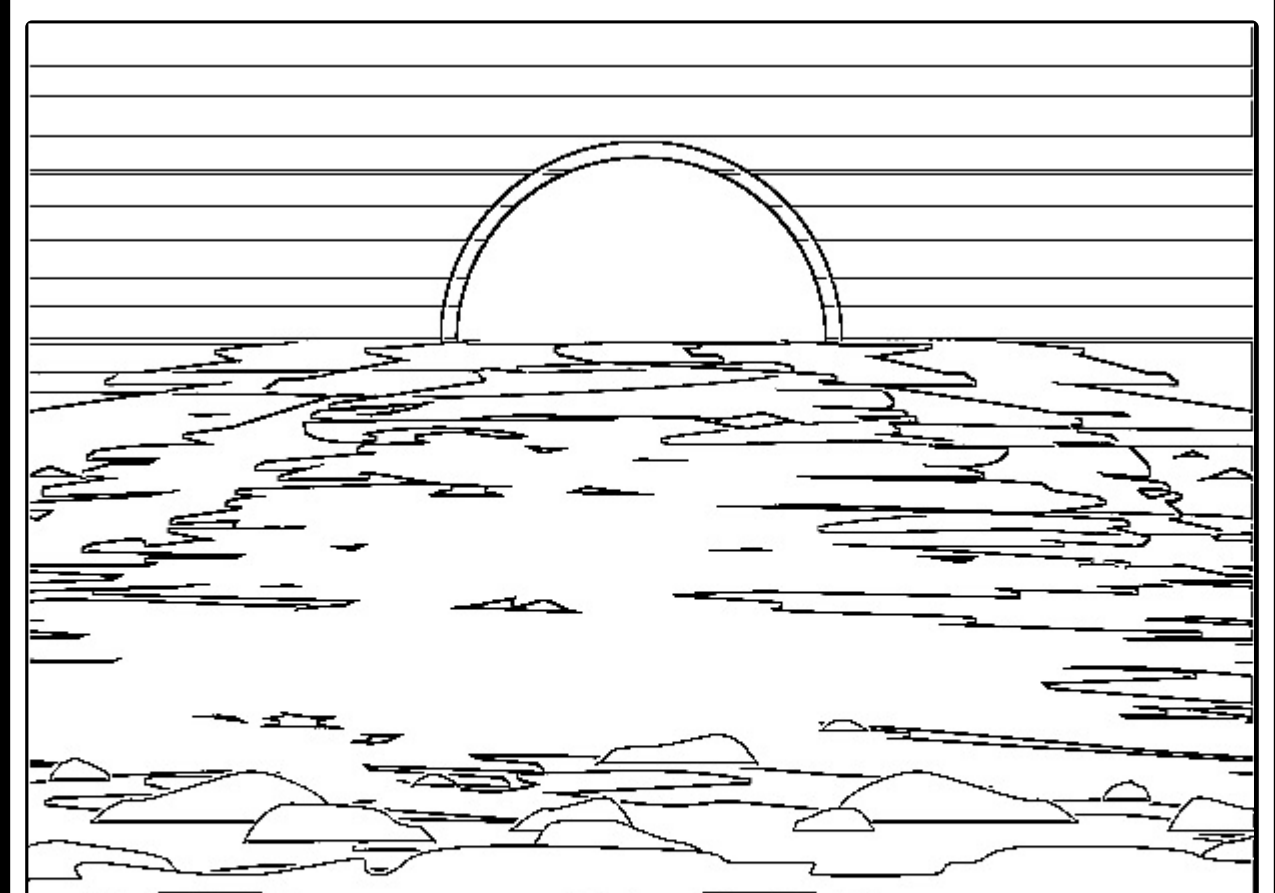


What does it mean to say that Christianity is not an ideology?

THE MAIN QUESTION



What did Pope Francis mean when he called on young people to 'be revolutionaries' and to refuse to 'settle for mediocrity'?



Why is 1 Corinthians 2:9 relevant? Record your thoughts.

You have been standing in a queue for half an hour to get into a venue. At the last minute, somebody who hasn't been in line, pushes in in front of you and you have to wait another 15 minutes, as they are only letting a certain amount of people in at a time. You try to protest but the doorman and the person who pushed in ignore you.

You are out Christmas shopping with your Mum and the car park is very busy. You and your Mum are waiting patiently for a car to move and the space is obviously yours. At the last minute another car from behind sweeps in and takes the space. Your Mum gets out and asks the driver to move, at which point she receives verbal abuse and rudeness.

You have been put in a group with two others to work on an important project for one of your subjects at school. One of the other students in your group barely contributes and the other one has been unwell. You do hours of work and the piece receives high marks. When the teacher comments on this, s/he singles out the group member who has hardly contributed for a prize and s/he accepts the accolade.

You and your friends have been paying £3 into a lottery syndicate for over a year. Each member of the syndicate takes it in turns to buy the tickets each week. One Saturday, five of your numbers come up and you are due to receive about £7,000 each. You find out that the person who had been meaning to buy the ticket that week had not done so and had just kept the money for the tickets.

Someone you know is feeling low because they feel they don't have many friends other than you. You take it upon yourself to introduce them to your wider circle of friends. After a while you find out that they are meeting up without you and have been to some parties together which you were not told about.

As you are standing at the bus stop you hear someone being rude to an elderly man. Someone reports it to the school and because you are in the same uniform and there at the time the incident takes place, you get into trouble too. You try to reason with your teachers but only some of them believe you. You are sure that you are being blamed by some of the staff at the school.

Right

true/false

comments

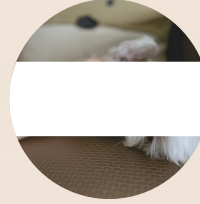
The Right to Privacy

Nobody should try to harm our good name. Nobody has the right to come into our home, open our letters, or bother us or our family without a good reason



Freedom of Expression

We all have the right to make up our own minds, to think what we like, to say what we think, and to share our ideas with other people



Equal Rights to Medical Assistance

We all have the right to get urgent medical help, regardless of age, race, religion, disability and wealth



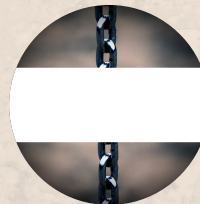
The Right to Life

We all have the right to life, and to live in freedom and safety



No Slavery

Nobody has any right to make us a slave. We cannot make anyone our slave



The Right to Democracy

We all have the right to take part in the government of our country. Every grown-up should be allowed to choose their own leaders



Right to Clean Air

We all have the right to breathe in air that is not polluted or could cause ill health



Property Right

Right to Leave your Property in its entirety When we die, we all have the right to leave our house, money and anything else we own to the person(s) we choose to in their entirety



FACES OF DISCRIMINATION



Samantha Elauf and Abercrombie Kids

In 2008 Samantha, a 17 year old Muslim went for an interview at an Abercrombie Kids store in Oklahoma. She was wearing her headscarf, or hijab. Samantha did not say at the interview that she wanted the company to give her a religious accommodation that would allow her to wear the hijab. She did not get the job. The company has a 'look policy' which the hijab violated to two separate ways: it was black and it was considered to be headwear.

A spokesperson from Abercrombie & Fitch said: "While the supreme court reversed the decision, it did not determine that A&F discriminated against Ms Elauf". This case united Christian, Muslim and Jewish and other religious groups. The vote in favour of Samantha was 8-1. The federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), sued the company on her behalf.



Aid to the
Church in Need

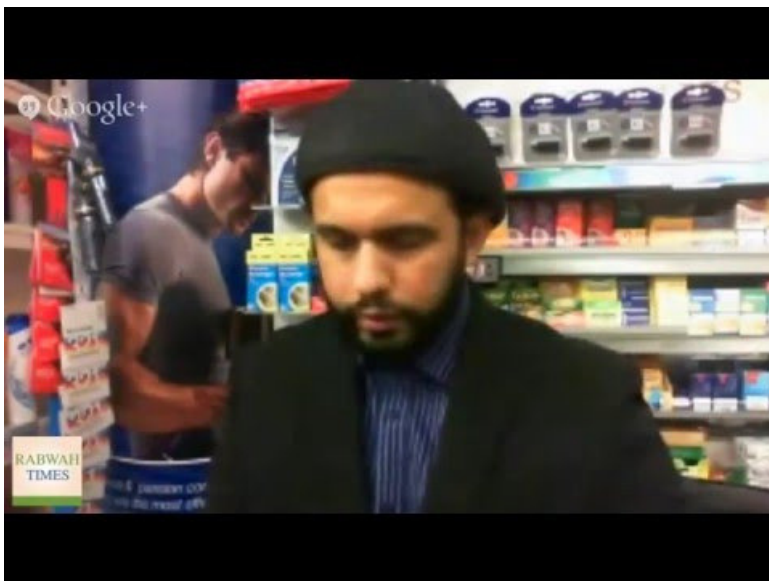
ACN UNITED KINGDOM

Ahmadiyya Muslim shopkeeper killed after
“Happy Easter” greeting March 2016:

An Ahmadiyya Muslim shopkeeper in Glasgow was murdered in a religiously motivated attack. The 40-year-old was brutally stabbed and found collapsed on the road outside his shop, Shah’s Newsagents and Convenience Store, in Shawlands, Glasgow. A Muslim man was arrested in connection with his death, which police described as “religiously motivated”. Initial news reports connected the murder with a message on Facebook in which Mr Shah wished people a happy Easter. In his last post to the social networking site on 24th March, Asad Shah wrote:

“Good Friday and very happy Easter especially to my beloved Christian nation! Let’s Follow The Real Footstep Of Beloved Holy JESUS CHRIST (PBUH)* And Get The Real Success In Both Worlds.”

- Mr Ahmed, 32, linked his decision to kill the shopkeeper to social media posts and videos in which Mr Shah claimed to have received prophetic revelations from God. The statement concluded “If I had not done this, others would and there would have been more killing and violence in the world.” Mr Shah was originally from Pakistan. The constitution of Pakistan prohibits Ahmadiyya from referring to themselves as Muslims. A silent vigil was also held outside his shop and was attended by hundreds of people, including Nicola Sturgeon, the First Minister of Scotland.
-
- Glasgow’s Ahmadiyya Muslim leaders issued a statement, which read: “This is deeply disturbing and sets an extremely dangerous precedent, as it justifies the killing of anyone – Muslim or non-Muslim – whom an extremist considers to have shown disrespect to Islam...It is the firm belief of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community that all people should be able to peacefully practise their faith without fear of persecution or violence.”
- *Peace Be Upon Him



- Sources: National Post (Canada), 29th March 2016; Daily Telegraph, 6th April 2016; BBC News (online), 7th April 2016; Asad Shah’s
- Facebook Page
(https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1669750269966472&id=100007945443146&pnref=story)



Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN UNITED KINGDOM



FACES OF PERSECUTION

December 2016: In Cairo, Egypt, at least 29 people were killed and more than 50 people were injured when a suicide bomber struck during Sunday Mass.

Following the attack at SS Peter and Paul Coptic Orthodox Church, next to the St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Cathedral, Daesh (ISIS) claimed responsibility, stating on Facebook that similar attacks would continue "against every infidel and apostate in Egypt, and everywhere."

Egyptian Catholic bishops' spokesman Father Rafic Graiche told Aid to the Church in Need: "There is a feeling among many who attend Mass that under the seat there is a bomb."

Four months later, in April 2017 on Palm Sunday suicide bombers targeted two churches in Alexandria and Tanta, resulting in 44 dead and more than 120 injured.

The following month, at least 28 people were killed and 23 others were injured when extremists targeted a bus filled with pilgrims travelling in Minya Province, Upper Egypt. Again, Daesh claimed responsibility.

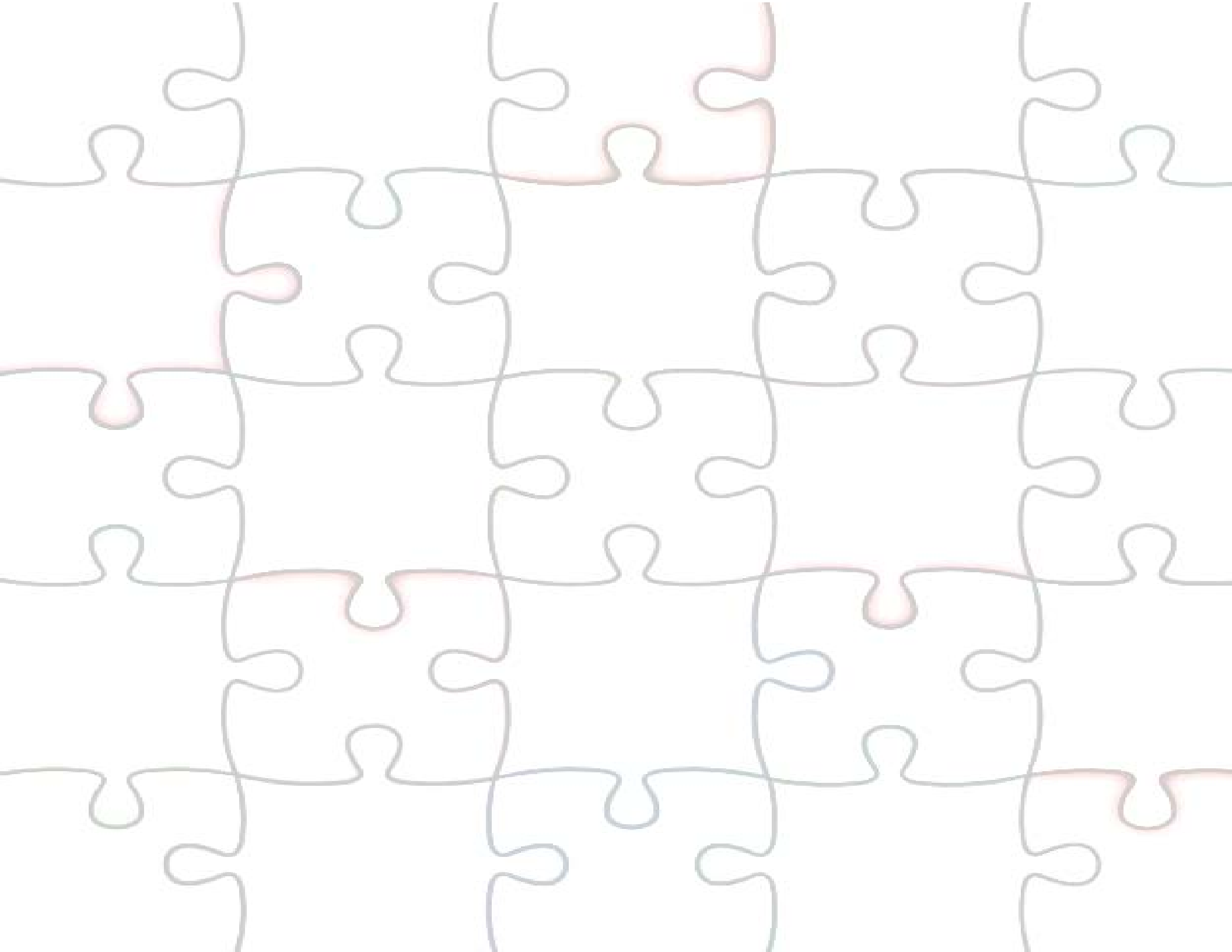


AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

APRIL 2016: When Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II visited a Syrian town just days after Daesh (ISIS) was driven out, he saw how the militants had tried to eradicate Christian symbols there. Syrian government forces ejected Daesh from Al-Qaryatayn in April 2016, nine months after the jihadists seized the town. During his visit, Patriarch Aphrem saw evidence that the jihadists had used a bulldozer to partially destroy St Elias Monastery, which dates back more than 1,500 years.

Human bones from ancient graves could be seen within the rubble. Charred pages from ancient Christian holy books were also visible and, in the graveyard outside, gravestones had been damaged and all the crosses removed. Churches all over the area have been demolished or damaged. Patriarch Aphrem (pictured standing in Al-Qaryatayn's St Elian Syriac Orthodox Church) told Aid to the Church in Need: **"The residents wept when they saw what had become of their town. It was especially painful to see how the churches had been wilfully defiled by ISIS."**

Within 24 hours of seizing Al-Qaryatayn in August 2015, Daesh abducted 230 people – 60 of them Christians – from the town. Many were subsequently released.



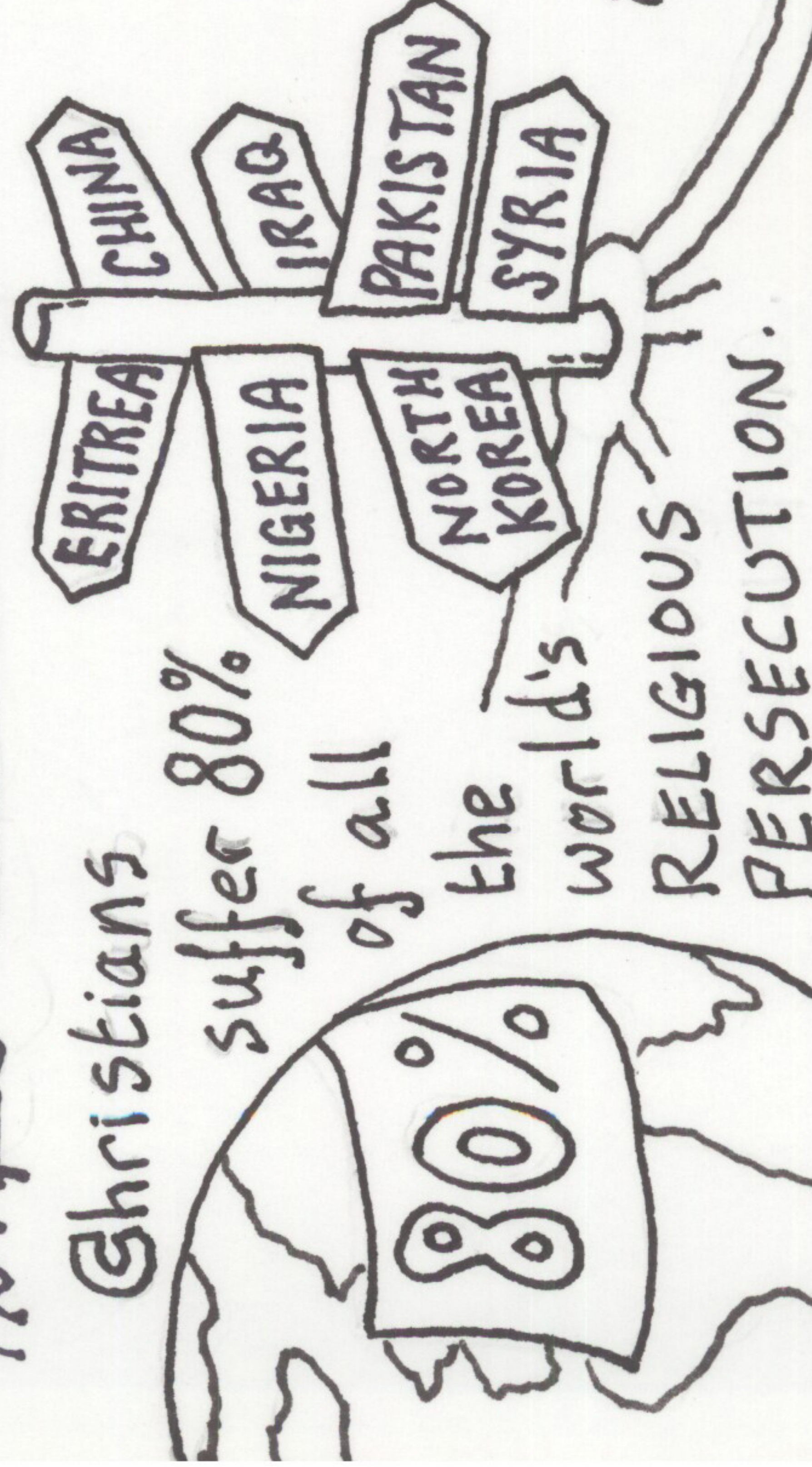


WHY?
Prayers change things in the world.

WHO needs my prayers?

200 million

I ask you: how many of you pray for persecuted Christians?



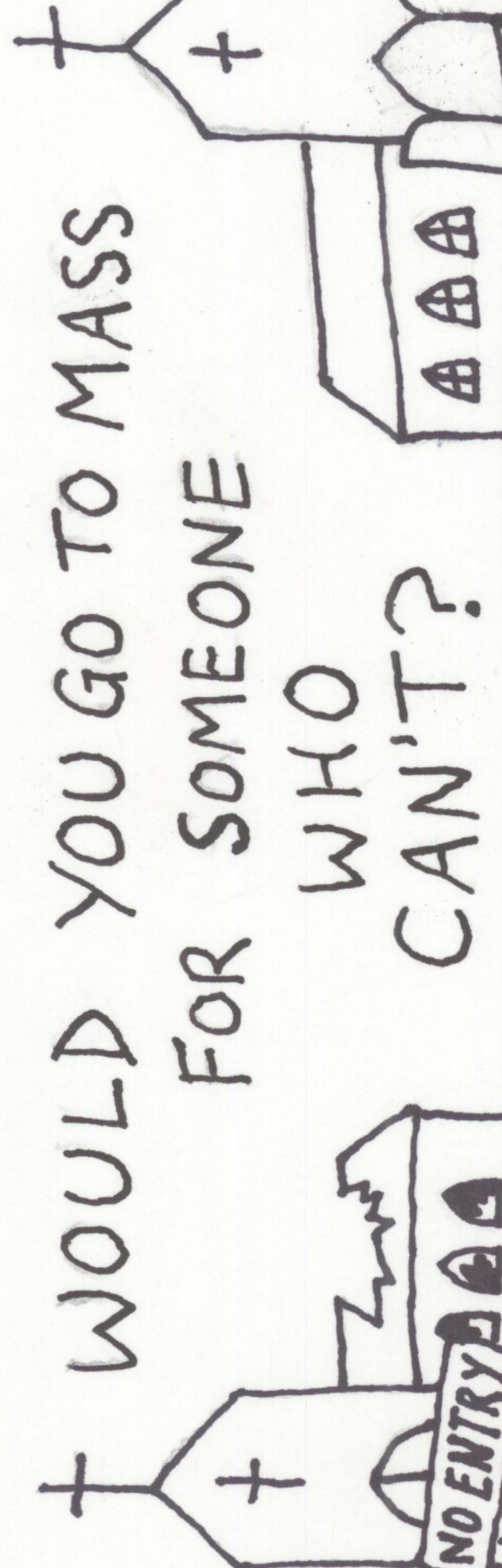
Many risk their lives to go to Mass - or even to pray.

OUR MASS-GOING supports and strengthens them.

Not alone

Not forgotten

THEIR WITNESS strengthens us.



+ WOULD YOU GO TO MASS FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN'T?

#Go2Mass

= a selfless choice

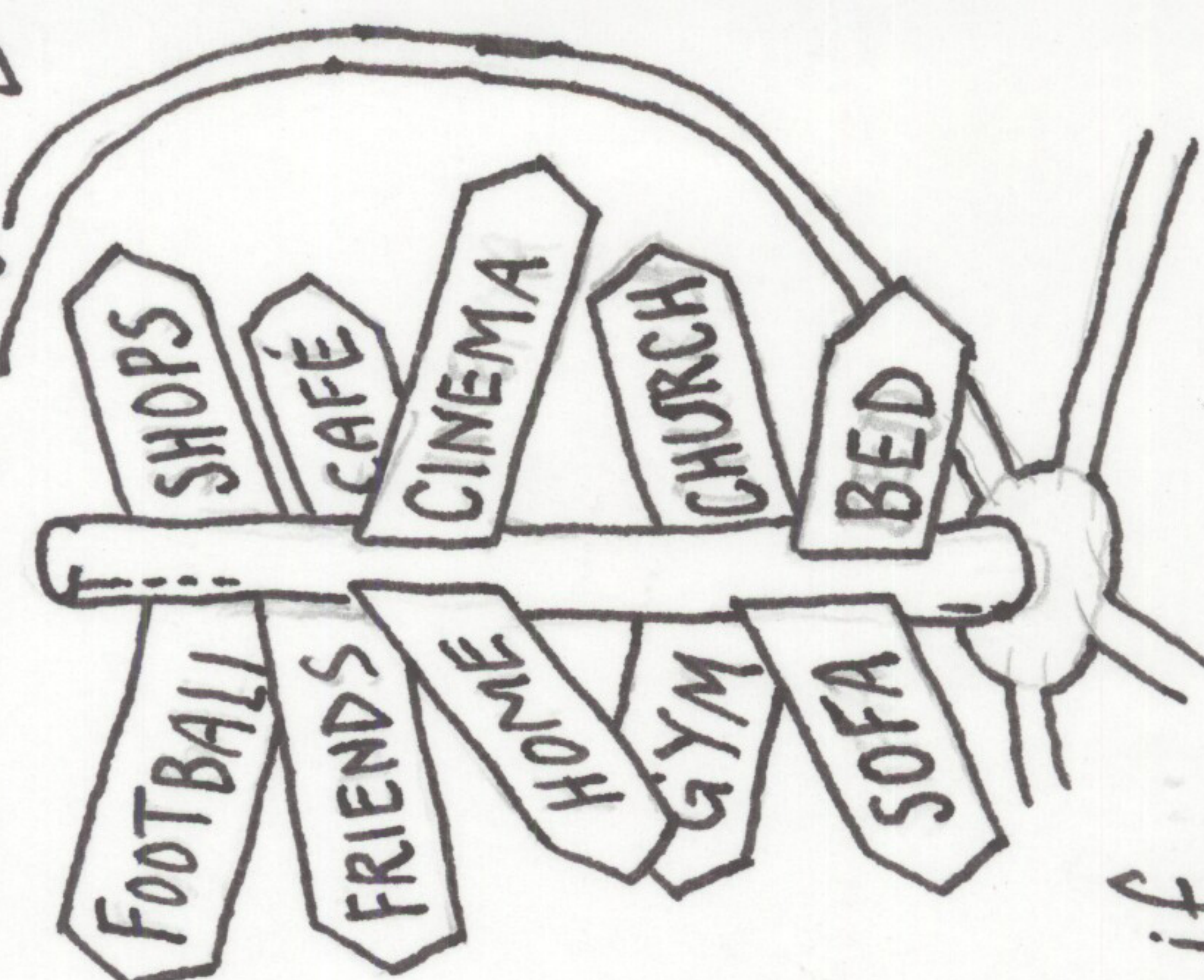


Christians must love with acts, not just feelings

At MASS, in the EUCHARIST,

GOD IS TRULY PRESENT!

We said = O = EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE:



OK, but What if...

I'm not sure I believe in God?

ENCOUNTER HIM!

Wasn't Jesus just a good man?

Read His words:

MAD/BAD/GOD

It just doesn't look like Jesus...

Even His friends sometimes failed to recognise Jesus, face to face.

GOD is not limited to ONE FORM!