



Year 6: RE Christianity Spring 1



Is anything ever eternal?



Eternal means forever – things in the world can last lots of peoples’ lifetimes but not forever. Things that get passed, on like stories or love, can be eternal because people still love people even when they have died so it lasts.

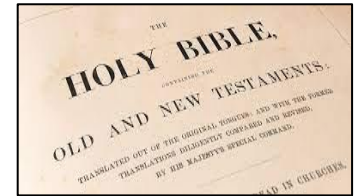
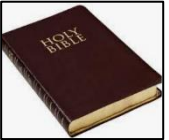
In the Bible it says that if you believe in God you will have eternal life. Christians believe that this means when they die they will go to heaven to be with God forever.

Part of why Christians lead a good life is because they think it is morally the right thing to do and they try to be like Jesus. The main reason Christians lead a good life and follow the Ten Commandments is because they want to have eternal life with God in Heaven when they die. So, the belief in life after death, eternal life, helps them to do their best to lead good lives.

Bible Passages

There are lots of different passages in the bible that explain eternal love. These include:

Love your enemies Matthew 6:43- 47, The two great commandments Mark 12: 29-31, The Lost Son Luke 15:11-32, Jesus heals 10 men (lepers) Luke 17:11-19, Jesus forgives the people who have crucified him Luke 23:34, God loves the world John 3:16, What is love? 1 Corinthians 13:4-13.



The Christian commitment



What do Christians promise each other?
How does the ring symbolise eternity?
Do you think the marriage between a couple can last forever?

Humanists



Humanists do not consider eternity in the same ways as some religions do. Humanists believe there is no god, there is one life and when it is over that is the end. So, eternity can only be a factor for Humanists in that the impact you have on the world can live on once you have gone. They would look at famous scientists like Darwin and Einstein and say that their legacies live on as they made discoveries which benefitted humankind. The same could be said for musicians, poets, artists etc. as the impact they have on the world may live on. to inspire others. Legacy rather than eternity in terms of life after death, is the Humanist perspective.

Key Vocabulary

Eternal	Lasting or existing forever: without end.
Security	The state of being free from danger or threat.
Unconditional	Not subject to any conditions
Reassuring	Say or do something to remove the doubts or fears of someone.
Forever	For all future time; for always.
Beliefs	Something one accepts as true or real; a firmly held opinion.
Agape	Christian love: in any form
Lifetime	The duration of a thing's existence or usefulness