

# SALVATION

## KEY QUESTIONS:

- What is salvation?
- Why is it important to Christians?
- What has salvation got to do with Jesus?



## INTRODUCTION

In this session we will find out what salvation is. We will then try to answer an exam style question.

Salvation means to be saved from danger. Salvation is very important to Christians.

Have you ever watched a film or TV programme where someone does something stupid and ends up in trouble? Then someone comes to save them. Sometimes the person who saves them loses stuff. Sometimes they die, even though they didn't do anything wrong...

Well that's a bit like salvation for Christians. Only in this story, we're the person who does the stupid thing and gets into trouble. So, who is going to save us? The answer is Jesus.

## CONSIDER

1. Even though Jesus didn't do anything wrong, He died so that we can stay close to God forever.

You can read more about this at <https://request.org.uk/life/beliefs/salvation-lite/>

### TASK

Read the web page mentioned above and then finish this sentence:

Salvation is...

The 'something stupid' = *sin*  
(all the bad stuff we do)

The 'trouble' = *separation from God*

The 'saviour' = *Jesus, who hadn't done anything wrong*

2. Look at the image here, then answer the questions.

The bridge is in the shape of Jesus' name. It's because when Jesus died, He gave us a way to get back close with God. This is what salvation is all about.

The person running across the bridge is someone who has sinned.



**QUESTIONS**

- a. Who do you think is on the other side of the bridge?  
I think the person on the other side of the bridge is...
- b. Is this a good image to use to explain salvation? Why/why not?  
I think this image is a good/bad image to use to explain salvation. I think this because...

3. Your exam board may ask for examples from sources of wisdom and authority about salvation. So, we are going to look at some Bible verses and The Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;

*Extract from The Nicene Creed*

“Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.”

*Acts 4:12*

“God puts people right through their faith in Jesus Christ. God does this to all who believe in Christ, because there is no difference at all: everyone has sinned and is far away from God’s saving presence. But by the free gift of God’s grace all are put right with him through Christ Jesus, who sets them free.”

*Romans 3:22-24*

“God did not choose us to suffer his anger, but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes.”

*1 Thessalonians 5:9-10*

**TASK**

- a. Read the Nicene Creed. Why did Jesus come ‘down from Heaven’? See the underlined section.
- b. Which of the Bible teachings helps you understand what salvation is the best? What does it show you about salvation?

The Bible teaching which helps me understand salvation the best is...

It shows me...

#### 4. Exam Questions

Below you will find an evaluation question – the one with the most marks on your paper!

There are a number of exam boards across the country. You should answer the question for your exam board. If you aren't sure which is your exam board, contact your teacher.

##### WJEC EDUQAS

*'Salvation is the most important belief for Christians.'*

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. Refer to religion and belief. (15 marks)

##### PEARSON EDEXCEL

*'Salvation is the most important belief for Christians.'*

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against. (15 marks)

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- refer to different Christian points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

##### AQA

*'Salvation is the most important belief for Christians.'*

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against. (12 marks)

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teaching
- give reasoned arguments to support the statement
- give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

##### OCR

*'Salvation is the most important belief for Christians.'*

Discuss this statement. (15 marks)

- Analyse and evaluate the importance of points of view, referring to common and divergent views within Christianity
- Refer to sources of wisdom and authority.

##### SQA - N5

*'Salvation is the most important belief for Christians.'*

How far do you agree? Give reasons for your answer. (8 marks)

When answering any evaluation question, you need to add stuff which supports the statement (FOR) and stuff which supports other ideas (AGAINST).

Here, you are writing about the importance of salvation to Christians. You can use what you've learned from this session when arguing FOR the statement. But you need to have some different ideas when arguing AGAINST the statement.

What other things are important to Christians?

These will get you started:

- Love
- Helping the poor
- Forgiveness
- Evangelism

Can you add more to this list?

And don't forget to say whether you agree or disagree with the statement (and why!) at the end!