

GCSE Religious Studies Syllabus (Short Course)

Module 1

September – January (15 Weeks)

Year 11

Challenge of Jesus – 7 Weeks of Study

[1] The identity of Jesus (Part 1)

Pupils should investigate the **identity of Jesus** and **His titles** through key events:

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|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| ➤ Jesus' birth | Luke 1: 26-38
Luke 2: 1-20 (Saviour) | Matthew 1: 18-24
Matthew 2: 1-12 |
| ➤ Baptism & Temptations | Matthew 3: 13-17 | Matthew 4: 1-11 (Son of God) |
| ➤ Confession by Peter | Matthew 16: 13-21 (Messiah) | |
| ➤ The transfiguration | Matthew 17: 1-13 | |
| ➤ Entry into Jerusalem | Matthew 21: 1-11 (Son of David) | |

Christian Church – 3 Weeks of Study

[2] The Church Calendar

The symbolism and significance of key events in the Church Calendar:

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Easter
- Pentecost.

Christian Morality – 5 Weeks of Study

[3] Friendship, Sexuality and Responsibility

- qualities of friendship
- different types of love
- loyalty and companionship

[4] Preparation for marriage

- Relationships and sexuality
- Choice of partner

Target for January - Year 11
(No Formal Exam)

Module 2**January – June (20 Weeks)****Year 11****Challenge of Jesus – 8 Weeks of Study****[1] The identity of Jesus (Part 2)**

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| ➤ The Last Supper | Matthew 26: 17-30 |
| ➤ Gethsemane | Matthew 26: 36-56 |
| ➤ Trial before Caiaphas | Matthew 26: 57-68 |
| ➤ Trial before Pilate | Matthew 27: 1-2 & 27: 11-31 |
| ➤ Crucifixion death & burial | Matthew 27: 32– 66 |
| ➤ Resurrection | Matthew 28: 1-10 |
| ➤ Commission of Disciples | Matthew 28: 16-20 |
| ➤ Ascension | Acts 1: 6-11 |

Christian Church – 3 Weeks of Study**[2] The Church Building**

- The symbolism and significance of Church buildings - the architecture
- The symbolism and significance of Church buildings - the furnishings
baptistry/font,
ambo/lectern/pulpit,
communion table/altar (other furnishings could be considered as appropriate).

Christian Morality – 9 Weeks of Study**[3] Christian teaching on Marriage & Divorce (5 Weeks)**

- Purpose and meaning of marriage
- Role of religion in marriage
- Christian wedding service
- Causes of marital failure
- Church support for marriages
- Christianity and divorce

Suggested Texts for Morality Section

1. Genesis 2: 18 – 24
2. Exodus 20: 12
3. Exodus 20: 14
4. Deuteronomy 24: 1 – 4
5. Matthew 5: 27 – 32
6. Matthew 19: 3 – 6
7. 1 Corinthians 7: 1 – 11
8. Ephesians 5: 21 – 33
9. Ephesians 6: 1 – 4
10. Colossians 3: 18 - 21

[4] Roles and Responsibilities within the Christian Family (4 Weeks)

- Reflecting Christian values in the home
- Ordering of tasks and roles
- Adoption and fostering as Christian service in the community

Target for June - Year 11
(Formal Examination – 1 x 1 hr. 30 mins.)

Module 3**September – January (15 Weeks)****Year 12****Challenge of Jesus – 5 Weeks of Study****[1] Teaching of Jesus**

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|-----------------------|---|
| ➤ Sermon on the Mount | Matthew 5: 13-16,
Matthew 6: 5 – 15,
Matthew 7: 24-29 |
| ➤ Discipleship | Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23. |
| ➤ Forgiveness | Matthew 18: 21-35 |
| ➤ Wealth & Poverty | Matthew 19: 16-30 |
| ➤ Humility & Ambition | Matthew 18: 1-5 |
| ➤ Life after death | Matthew 25: 31-46 |

Christian Church – 4 Weeks of Study**[2] The Sacraments of the Church**

Symbolism and Significance of the following sacraments, ordinances and practices

- Baptism and
- Eucharist/Communion

Christian Morality – 6 Weeks of Study**[3] Issues in Society (part 1) – (3 Weeks)****Abortion**

- Social attitudes to abortion
- Arguments for abortion
- Arguments against abortion
- Abortion and health professionals
- Abortion and the law
- Christian teaching on abortion

[4] Issues in Society (part 2) (3 Weeks)

Substance Abuse and Addiction (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gambling)

- Forms of addiction
- Reasons for drug use and gambling
- Personal and social consequences of drug dependency and addiction
- Drug use and the Law
- Christian teaching on substance abuse and gambling

Target for January - Year 12
(Trial Examination – 1 x 1 hr. 30 mins.)

Module 4**January – May (15 Weeks)****Year 12****Challenge of Jesus – 5 Weeks of Study****[1] Deeds of Jesus**

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| ➤ Religious leaders | Luke 8: 40-42, 49-56 |
| ➤ Women | Luke 13: 10-17 |
| ➤ Poor | Luke 21: 1-4 |
| ➤ Sinners | Luke 19: 1-10 |
| ➤ Social Outcasts | Luke 17: 11-19 |
| ➤ Gentiles | Luke 7: 1-10 |

Christian Church – 3 Weeks of Study**[2] The Styles and Content of Christian Worship**

A range of different Church traditions should be considered.
Pupils should be familiar with at least **one** Order of Service.

Christian Morality – 4 Weeks of Study**Issues in Society (part 3)****[3] Work (2 Weeks)**

- Employment and unemployment
- Responsibilities and Rights in employment
- Purpose of work
- Changing patterns of work
- Work as a vocation
- Christian teaching on work

[4] Sunday and Leisure (2 Weeks)

- Sunday observance and leisure
- Changing patterns of Leisure
- Christian teaching on leisure

Suggested Texts for Morality Section:

11. Genesis 2: 2 - 3
12. Genesis 2:: 15
13. Exodus 20: 8 - 11
14. Psalm 139: 13 – 16
15. Luke 1: 39 - 44
16. Jeremiah 1: 4 - 5
17. Matthew 22: 37 - 39
18. Mark 6: 31 – 32
19. 1 Corinthians 3: 16, 17
20. 1 Corinthians 10: 13
21. Ephesians 6: 5 - 7
22. Colossians 3: 23, 4: 1

Revision – 3 Weeks of Study

Target for May - Year 12
(External Examination – 1 x 1 hr. 30 mins.)
