

Cranleigh Primary School, Christian Ethos working document.

In the New Testament (Matthew 22:37-40) Jesus Christ sums up the entire duty of humankind as follows: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind...Love your neighbour as yourself." This summary of the Old Testament Law looks in two directions: upwards (love God) and outwards (love your neighbour). Our six Christian values flow out from this key teaching of Jesus. Each one has an upward and an outward focus and each one is rooted in the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible.

Christian Value	Key biblical teachings	Bible Stories	Summary (upward and outward)	Links to 4 Golden Rules	Links to 5 R's
Forgiveness	<p>Ephesians 4:32 'Be kind and compassionate to one another, <i>forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.</i>'</p> <p>Romans 5: 6-8 'You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God</p>	<p>The crucifixion narratives (Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 19).</p> <p>Matthew 18:21-35: The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant.</p>	<p><i>Forgiveness</i> lies at the heart of the Christian faith. All of humanity is in desperate need of God's forgiveness, unable to save ourselves. God, in his love gave of himself in order to forgive us. Jesus' death on a Roman cross paid the price for our rebellion against God, enabling us to be forgiven by him. It is why Jesus cried out 'Father forgive them'.</p> <p>Christians believe they ought to forgive others, just as God, in Christ, has forgiven them. <i>Forgiveness starts with being forgiven by God and flows out to forgiving others.</i> This is the thrust of the parable of the unmerciful servant, and indeed the famous petition in the Lord's prayer: forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.</p>	<p>Forgiveness links to being kind and caring.</p>	<p>Sometimes forgiveness feels like you are taking a risk. It can be more comfortable to hold on to resentment. The forgiving person is a risk-taker.</p>

	demonstrates his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'				
Thankfulness	<p>1 Thessalonians 5:18 'Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'</p> <p>1 Corinthians 15:57 'But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.'</p>	<p>Jesus heals 10 lepers, Luke 17:11-19</p> <p>Daniel 6 Daniel in the Lions' Den.</p>	<p>Thankfulness is central to Christian faith, as it flows naturally from the forgiveness given to us by Jesus Christ. Again, thankfulness starts with gratitude to God for all he has done (this can be everyday things like homes, families, friends, food, but also forgiveness). Thankfulness for forgiveness, being loved by God, is why the apostle Paul can command Christians to give thanks in ALL circumstances. Whatever is happening in our lives, God's love is always rock solid. The story of the 10 lepers reminds us of the importance of being thankful (only one leper thanked Jesus!); the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den is an example of thanking God (Daniel 6:10) even in difficult circumstances. Of course, though God is the prime recipient of our thanks, the principle extends more generally to those around us. Thankfulness helps us to be humble, as it reminds us we need help from others!</p>	<p>Thankfulness is the fuel to a happy and smiley person. When we are humble and thankful, we will naturally be happier!</p>	<p>Thankfulness is key to resilience. When we don't realise how much we owe to God and those around us, we are much quicker to give up.</p>
Friendship	Proverbs 13:20 'Walk with the wise and become wise,	David and Jonathan, 1 Samuel 18-20	Christian friendship starts with the Christian principle that ALL human beings are of infinite value because they are made in the	True friendship involves being	Good friends are reflective. Friendships

	<p>for a companion of fools suffers harm.'</p> <p>Proverbs 17:17 'A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.'</p> <p>Proverbs 27:5-6 'Better is open rebuke than hidden love. ⁶ Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.'</p> <p>Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 'Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the</p>	<p>Jesus and his disciples, John 15:12-15 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends,</p>	<p>very image of God. Part of being made in God's image is an innate desire and need to be connected, to walk through life with others, rather than alone. The wisdom offered in the book of Proverbs tells us that our choice of friends will have an impact on how we live and behave (walk with the wise). A friend is to love at all times, not just when it is convenient. A friend will say the true but hard things, not just the nice things (wounds from a friend can be trusted). In the Bible there are many examples of wonderful friendships, perhaps the most famous is of the young king David and his friend, Jonathan. Jesus, in the New Testament, says that it is possible to be friends even with God. In John 15 he says that people show they are friends with God, by doing what Jesus has taught them. Jesus is in a perfect position to say this, because he showed how much he loved his friends (even us) by laying down his life for them. And so he says: love each other as I have loved you.</p>	<p>responsible and respectful; being kind and caring and being happy!</p>	<p>require resourcefulness and risk-taking. Friends are also vital in helping us to be resilient. We all need the support of our friends.</p>
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	<p>other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.'</p>	<p>for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.</p>			
Compassion	<p>Psalm 103:13 'As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.'</p> <p>Psalm 51:1 'Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.'</p> <p>2 Corinthians 1:3-4 'Praise be to the God and Father of our</p>	<p>The parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37</p> <p>The story of Ruth and Boaz, Ruth</p> <p>The story of King David and Mephibosheth , 2 Samuel 9</p>	<p>Compassion is literally 'to suffer with' (<i>passion</i> mean suffering). To have compassion on someone is to suffer with them, to enter into their struggle. Once again, Christian compassion finds its source in God. Just as God has compassion on those he has created, so we are to have compassion on those around us. God's compassion is seen most clearly in his willingness to enter into our struggle and mess, as the Christ child, Jesus. This was the ultimate expression of compassion. Indeed his compassion took him even to the passion of the cross.</p> <p>This is what the apostle Paul is referring to in his second letter to the Corinthians. As God has comforted us, we can comfort others. Showing compassion to the 'outsider' or the undeserving is an especially distinct feature of Christianity. This is what it means to 'love thy neighbour' as Jesus illustrates in the Parable of the Good Samaritan. In the Old</p>	<p>Compassion could be summarised as being kind and caring.</p>	<p>Sometimes being compassionate will involve risk-taking. You may be the only one to look out for someone else.</p>

	<p>Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.'</p>		<p>Testament, Boaz shows great compassion to the widow and outsider, Ruth. King David shows compassion to the cripple Mephibosheth by allowing to him to eat at the king's table.</p>		
Hope	<p>Genesis 9:14-16 'Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the</p>		<p>The Christian understanding of hope is different to our common usage. When the bible speaks of 'hope', (eg. 1 Peter 1) it is speaking of a concrete reality, not wishful thinking. Christian hope is a firm, certain thing, not a mere possibility. It is certain because God has secured it; it is real because Jesus has done it. This is why Peter says Christians have been born into a 'living hope through the resurrection of Jesus'. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, Christians will one day be raised also. Therefore heaven, is a certainty for Christian believers not a wish.</p> <p>Many of the stories in the bible illustrate this principle of sure hope in various ways. The</p>	<p>Christian hope (that certain, firm anchor for the soul) always leads to long-term happiness (not the false, fleeting kind, but the real kind).</p>	<p>To remember our future hope often requires time to be reflective and to take a few minutes to gain perspective.</p>

	<p>everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.”</p> <p>1 Peter 1:3-6 'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.'</p> <p>Hebrews 6:18-20 'God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before</p>		<p>rainbow God places in the sky after the flood is like a symbol of firm hope, because God has promised he will never destroy the earth like that again.</p> <p>This sure hope is why the bible writers can describe hope as an 'anchor for the soul, firm and secure.' When we are sure of our future, nothing is too much.</p>		
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	<p>us may be greatly encouraged.¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,²⁰ where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf.'</p>				
Endurance	<p>1 Peter 1:4-7 'This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.⁶ In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.⁷ These have</p>	<p>The apostle Paul on his missionary journeys, in the book of Acts - summarised in 2 Corinthians 4 'But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not</p>	<p>Christian endurance is inextricably linked to Christian hope. It is the firm anchor for our souls which keeps us going in life's storms. Moreover, the apostle Paul testifies to his trials and tribulations, saying that this suffering produces perseverance, perseverance produces character, and character, hope. This dynamic of growing in character through our challenging circumstances is vital to endurance. It is only possible when a person knows they are ultimately valuable to God, as they are made in his image; when they know they are ultimately loved by God who gave them his own son; and they are ultimately safe with God, as they have a firm hope for the future.</p>	<p>Endurance will involve always trying our best in everything we do. Even when circumstances seem against us, endurance means trying anyway!</p>	<p>Endurance is really another word for resilience.</p>

	<p>come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.'</p> <p>Romans 5:3-5 'Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been</p>	<p>from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.'</p>			
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	<p>given to us.'</p> <p>James 1:12 'Blessed is the person who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.'</p>				
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Half term	Christian Value focus
Autumn 1	Friendship
Autumn 2	Hope
Spring 1	Forgiveness
Spring 2	Thankfulness
Summer 1	Compassion
Summer 2	Endurance