

# LC: Can I explore what codes for living non-religious people use?



A few weeks ago, we looked at the values that inspired Christian leaders. What can you remember about them?

Here are some of the Beatitudes that Jesus taught:

- *Blessed are those who are humble...*
- *Blessed are those who want to do right more than anything else...*
- *Blessed are those who show mercy to others...*
- *Blessed are those whose thoughts are pure...*
- *Blessed are those who work to bring peace...*

Christians and Jews also get their understanding of what is right and wrong from the Ten Commandments, found in the book of Exodus in the Bible. They believe that the prophet Moses (who led the Jews out of slavery in Egypt) was given these rules by God.



# The 10 Commandments (key rules for Jews and Christians)

- **1.**You shall not worship anything except God.
- **2.**You shall not make idols.
- **3.**You shall not use the name of God disrespectfully.
- **4.** Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- **5.** Respect your father and your mother.
- **6.** You shall not murder.
- **7.** You shall not commit adultery.
- **8.** You shall not steal.
- **9.** You shall not tell lies against your neighbour.
- **10.** You shall not be jealous of what others have.

# Non-religious people

- Many people in our country do not follow a religion. Some of them might describe themselves as atheists or agnostics.

## Key vocabulary

An **atheist** does not believe there is a God/ Gods.

An **agnostic** does not think there is enough evidence to decide whether God exists or not.

TTYP How do you think that non-religious people decide what is right and wrong?

Some non-religious people would describe themselves as **humanist**.  
Read the statements below and decide whether humanists would agree or disagree with them.

- We can trust science to explain the world
- Heaven and hell exist
- People should think for themselves what is right, based on respecting others
- We can use our empathy for others (imagining how they feel) to make the world a better place.
- Religion is necessary to explain the world.
- You have to be religious to know what is right.



*This symbol (the happy human) is used by the British Humanist Association*

that we can trust science to explain the world

Heaven and Hell exist

People should work out for themselves what is right,  
based respecting others

Humanists believe

Religion is necessary to explain the world

You have to be religious to know what is right

We can use your empathy for others (imagining  
how they feel) to make the world a better place

Humanists do not believe

# Humanists would say this:



- They trust science to understand the universe. They do not believe in miracles, religion or god to explain the purpose of life.
- They use their reasoning skills and empathy towards others to decide how we should treat people or animals.
- There is no afterlife (heaven) so we should act to bring happiness in this life for ourselves and help others to do the same.

On the next slide there is an activity to do if you find this work hard

On the slide after that there is a slightly harder activity. These activities are also attached to the assignment in Google Classrooms.

Choose which one you are going to do in your book (or on Google Drive)

## Basic activity to do

Draw this table in your book and write the statements in the correct side of the table

Christians believe

Humanists believe

*A) God made everyone and so we are all equal. The Bible teaches us to love our neighbour.*

*B) All people have human rights and should be treated fairly because we are all human. If people knew more science, they would be better people.*

*D) You don't need to be religious to be a good person. Just imagine how you'd want to be treated*

*F) This world is not perfect but we should still work to make it better. One day, Jesus will return and make everything right again.*

*C) We only have one life and so we should live in a way that makes us and other people happy. Once we're dead, it's all over.*

*E) Humans always make mistakes and need to pray to God for forgiveness and ask for help to become better people.*

The answers are at the end of this presentation

## Challenge activity to do

Draw this table in your book and write the statements in the correct side of the table

Christians believe

They both believe

Humanists believe

*We need to pray for forgiveness.*

*Everyone should be treated fairly*

*Jesus died to take our sins away*

*Humans were not made any more important than animals*

*Earning money is not the most important thing in life*

*One day, God will make everything better*

*Praying is just talking to yourself*

*Science is more important than religion*

*It is our job to look after those in need*

Can you think of any extra statements that could go in our table? Let your teacher know in Google Classrooms if you have any good ideas.

The answers are at the end of this presentation

# Answers for the basic activity

## Christians believe

*A) God made everyone and so we are all equal. The Bible teaches us to love our neighbour.*

*E) Humans always make mistakes and need to pray to God for forgiveness and ask for help to become better people.*

*F) This world is not perfect but we should still work to make it better. One day, Jesus will return and make everything right again.*

## Humanists believe

*B) All people have human rights and should be treated fairly because we are all human. If people knew more science, they would be better people.*

*C) We only have one life and so we should live in a way that makes us and other people happy. Once we're dead, it's all over.*

*D) You don't need to be religious to be a good person. Just imagine how you'd want to be treated*

There is one more question if you go forward two slides.

# Challenge activity answers

## Christians believe

*We need to pray for forgiveness.*

*Jesus died to take our sins away.*

*One day, God will make everything better.*

## They both believe

*Everyone should be treated fairly*

*It is our job to look after those in need*

*Earning money is not the most important thing in life*

## Humanists believe

*Praying is just talking to yourself*

*Science is more important than religion*

*Humans were not made any more important than animals.*

Go forward one slide for the last question.

# Final question

- When asked to summarise the Christian code for living, Jesus said:

*"Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... And love your neighbour as yourself"*

Do you think that a humanist would agree or disagree with this statement?

# Final question

- When asked to summarise the Christian code for living, Jesus said:

*"Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... And love your neighbour as yourself"*

Do you think that a humanist would agree or disagree with this statement?

Humanists do not believe there is a God so would not see the need to love God. However, they would agree that we should treat (love) other people the way that we want to be treated.