

## Unit U2.11 Why do some people believe in God and some people not?

### Vocabulary

Atheist	Believes there is no God
Agnostic	Cannot say if God exists or not
Prophet	Someone who listens to and speaks for God.
Mohammad	The founder of Islam.
Allah	The name Muslims use for God.
Jesus	Christians belief of the son of God on Earth.
Abraham	The father of the Jewish People
Trinity	The three persons of Christian Godhead: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
omnipotent	All powerful
Omniscient	All knowing
Omnipresent	Everywhere

### Jewish ideas of God

Judaism is the oldest of the world's four biggest monotheistic religions (religions with only one god). It's also the smallest, with only about 12 million followers around the world. Jews believe that there is a single God who not only created the universe, but with whom every Jew can have an individual and personal relationship. Jewish history begins with the covenant established between God and **Abraham** around 1812 BC, during the Bronze Age, in the Middle East. Abraham considered as the father of the family of Jews.



### By the end of this Unit I will.....

Define the terms "theist", "atheist" and "agnostic" and give examples of statements that reflect these beliefs  
 Identify and explain what religious and non-religious people believe about God, saving where they get their ideas from  
 Give examples of reasons why people do or do not believe in God.  
 Make clear connections between what people believe about God and the impact of this belief on how they live  
 Give evidence and examples to show how Christians sometimes disagree about what God is like  
 Reflect on and articulate some ways in which believing in God is valuable in the lives of believers, and ways it can challenge.

### Islamic Ideas of God

Islam is the **second most popular religion** in the world with over a thousand million followers. It is more often thought of as a complete way of life rather than a religion.  
 Islam began in Arabia and was revealed to humanity by the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Those who follow Islam are called Muslims. Muslims believe that there is only one God, called **Allah**. Allah is the name Muslims use for the supreme and unique God, who created and rules everything. The heart of faith for all Muslims is obedience to Allah's will.



### Christian Ideas of God

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God and that: God sent his Son to earth to save humanity from the consequences of its sins. Jesus was fully human, and experienced this world in the same way as other human beings of his time.  
 Jesus was tortured and gave his life on the Cross (At the Crucifixion)  
 Jesus rose from the dead on the third day after his Crucifixion (the Resurrection)  
 Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament  
 Christians believe that there is only one God, but that this one God consists of 3 "persons" God the Father - God the Son - The Holy Spirit  
 Christians believe that God made the world.



