

Key Vocabulary

Journey- an act of travelling from one place to another.

Ceremony -is a formal event such as a wedding or an event with a purpose.

Rituals -a set of actions or words performed in a regular way, often as part of a religious ceremony.

Symbols- shape or sign used to represent something such as an organisation.

Baptism- The Christian ceremony involving immersion in water or sprinkling with water.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah –a Jewish ceremony to mark the start of adult life.

Wedding -is a marriage ceremony. A union and promise made between a couple.

Belonging- to belong to a group or a belief

Commitment- to be dedicated to an activity or a cause.

Belief- believe and have faith.

Love- a strong feeling of affection.

Important Facts

There are different types of journeys that believers make in their lifetime.

Christians:

Infant baptism: Children are baptised to show that they belong to the Christian family and the Church. Baptism is a sign that someone belongs to Christ, which is why it is sometimes called “Christening”.



Adult baptism: A person may choose to be baptised once they have decided for themselves that they want to live as a Christian. This is known as believers’ baptism. Believers’ baptism includes the person being dipped right under the water, as Jesus was when he was baptised in the River Jordan. This could take place in a river, a church baptistry or even a swimming pool. At other times the baptism may take place around the font with the sign of the cross being made from water on the person’s head.

Hindus:

Upanayana: The **Sacred Thread** ceremony is for boys in some Hindu communities to confirm they are of an age to take on religious responsibility. In some Hindu communities, the boy’s head is shaved for the ceremony, symbolising a cleansing from their old ways of living. New clothes are put on after bathing. Gifts and blessings from family and friends are often received.

Jews:

Bar Mitzvah is a ceremony for Jewish boy, and a **Bat Mitzvah** a ceremony for Jewish girl. They go through a ceremony which symbolises the young person’s responsibility for themselves. For boys and girls aged 12 or 13 to become ‘son/daughters of the Commandments’.



Wedding & Marriage

Getting married and holding a wedding is a symbol and value of ceremonies that mark the commitment of a loving relationship between two people. It is a new journey couples decide to make to commit and care for each other for the rest of their life. All religions hold religious wedding ceremonies.