

3 <sup>rd</sup> February 10 <sup>th</sup> February	WALT: To understand the meaning of the symbolic artefacts found at a Christian wedding.  <b>Big Question:</b> Is anything ever eternal?	<b>Self-assessment</b> Demonstrate and do: Use and apply: <hr/> <b>Teacher assessment</b> Demonstrate and do: Use and apply:
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### Christian Weddings

	<p>Reflect upon the big question is anything ever eternal? Watch the film clip of a Christian Marriage <a href="https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/christian-marriage">https://www.truetube.co.uk/film/christian-marriage</a>. What vows and promises are given?</p> <p>Highlight the text, which demonstrates the symbolic meaning to Christians.</p>	
	<p>Write down any questions you may have about the <i>Christian Wedding Ceremony</i>. Does it compare to an Islamic Wedding ceremony- explain why?</p> <div data-bbox="258 600 1337 1064" style="border: 2px solid black; height: 200px; margin: 10px 0;"></div>	
	<p><b>Answer the Big Questions:</b></p> <p>What did Jesus teach Christians?</p> <div data-bbox="247 1496 1348 1787" style="border: 2px solid black; height: 130px; margin: 10px 0;"></div> <p>Do you think love can be eternal?</p>	

## What Happens at a Christian Wedding?

For Christians, marriage is very important. Most Christians believe the bringing up of children should take place only after marriage. Christians believe marriage should be for life, though some Christians will accept divorce in certain situations.

A Christian wedding ceremony is an important occasion that reflects their beliefs about the nature of marriage; as a result, it has many symbolic elements.

The ceremony will usually start when the bride enters the church. She will wear a white dress, which symbolises purity. This reflects the fact that many Christian denominations believe both the bride and groom should be in a very special relationship when entering a marriage. The tradition of a white dress is still popular.

The priest or minister will then welcome the congregation. The wedding ceremony will vary in different denominations. However, Christian weddings will always contain prayers and readings from the Bible. These passages will be carefully chosen so that they discuss the importance marriage and offer guidance to the couple.

At many wedding ceremonies, the couple will light a candle (or candles). These represent the light of Jesus, which Christians believe will guide the couple throughout their lives.

For most Christians, the most important part of a wedding ceremony is the vows and exchange of rings. The vows are the promises the couple make to each other during their marriage. Couples may write their own vows, but many will choose to use traditional vows such as these suggested by the Church of England: After making their vows, the couple exchange rings. These circular rings, which have no beginning or end, symbolise that marriage should last forever.

The wedding ceremony will usually be followed by a meal and party. These celebrate the marriage which should, of course, be a joyful occasion.



Explain why the following symbols are important in a wedding...

"Love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails..."

CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

