



**In this unit, you should:**

- Explain the place of Incarnation and Messiah within the ‘big story’ of the Bible.
- Identify Gospel and prophecy texts in the bible.
- Explain connections between biblical texts, Incarnation and Messiah, using theological terms (e.g. Gospel, prophecy)
- Show how Christians put their beliefs about Jesus’ Incarnation into practice in different ways in celebrating Christmas.
- Write or talk about how the idea that Jesus is the Messiah makes sense in the wider story of the Bible.
- Weigh up how far the idea that Jesus is the Messiah — a Saviour from God — is important in the world today and, if it is true, what difference that might make in people’s lives.

**Links:**

- EYFS:** Why do Christians perform nativity plays?  
**Yr 1&2** - Why does Christmas matter to Christians?  
**Yr 3** - LKS2 CORE LEARNING: - Why is Baptism important to Christians?  
**Yr 4** - LKS2 DIGGING DEEPER: What is the Trinity?  
**Yr 6** - UKS2 DIGGING DEEPER: What does it mean to be holy and loving?

**Key vocabulary:**

- Incarnate:** to take on a human form  
**Saviour:** a person who saves someone or something from danger or harm  
**Emmanuel:** God is with us  
**Messiah or the Anointed One:** the figure promised by God to the Jews for the salvation of the world. The Jews think that the Messiah will be a human being that will save Israel and lead the whole world into the End of Days and eternal peace.  
 New Testament  
**The Holy Trinity:** God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit  
**Prophecy:** something foretold - the ability to predict what will happen in the future

**Key Questions:**

Was Jesus the hoped-for Saviour? Was Jesus the Messiah?

What clues are there that Jesus is the promised Messiah?

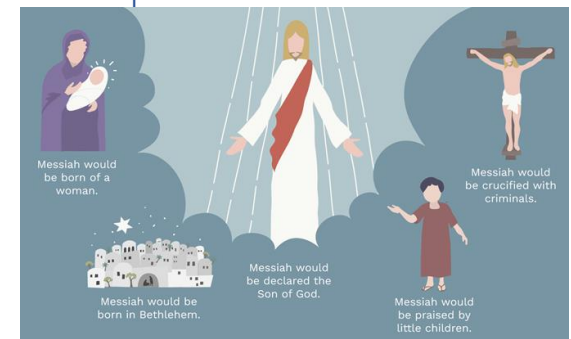
What do different Christians do at Christmas?

Jesus is the Saviour from God, but why might people think that the world needs one?

Imagine that there is a God: if this God sent a new messenger to Earth in the twenty-first century, what would the messenger say?

**Key content:**

- The People of God were taken into exile in Babylon in 586BCE. They return after about 50 years, but their Promised Land is still occupied by foreign forces. They begin to have a New Hope — God will rescue them! He will send a rescuer, a saviour — a Chosen One or Messiah. This is the situation when the Old Testament ends. However, the land remains occupied by different forces — at the start of the New Testament, this is by the beastly Romans. The people have been waiting a long time — and some are despairing, but some still hope.



- Jesus was Jewish.
- Christians believe Jesus is God in the flesh.
- They believe that his birth, life, death and resurrection were part of a longer plan by God to restore the relationship between humans and God.
- The Old Testament talks about a ‘rescuer’ or ‘anointed one’ — a messiah. Some texts talk about what this ‘messiah’ would be like.
- Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled these expectations, and that he is the Messiah. (Jewish people do not think Jesus is the Messiah.)
- Christians see Jesus as their Saviour.