



Knowledge Organiser RE

Upper Key Stage 2

Is "God made man" a good way to understand the Christmas story?



Key Vocabulary

Christ

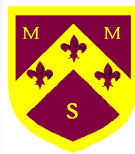
Incarnation

Emmanuel/Immanuel

Anointed

Redeem

Hindu avatars



Key Questions

What do Christians really believe about the Christmas story?
 Does it make a difference to the way that Christians live?
 Does it make a difference that Christians believe Jesus is God incarnate?
 What does incarnation mean?
 Does it change the way Christians celebrate Christmas?
 Is Christian belief in Jesus similar to Hindu belief in avatars?
 Does Christmas make sense if Jesus is not God Incarnate?

Key Content

Christmas is an important Christian festival. For Christians it is the time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, born to the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit; Jesus is understood to be God made Man and the name **Emmanuel or Immanuel** mean "God with us". Christians believe that Jesus is "God **incarnate**" [God in the flesh]. This is the mystery of the **incarnation** - God taking flesh and living as man among humankind.

This is a theology that has evolved over time as believers considered the implications of Jesus' birth, life, teaching, death and resurrection.

The name Jesus means "he saves" and Christ and Messiah both mean "**anointed one**"; the people of Israel had long understood that God would send his anointed one to rescue and **redeem** them. God sending Jesus to earth as his son only makes sense to Christians in the context of what he went on to do on the cross at His death.

There are differences between the Christian view of incarnation and **Hindu avatars**.

