

Unit L2.12 How and why do people try to make the world a better place?

Enquiry Questions

- What's wrong with the world? And how can the 'Golden Rule' help people to work out how to make the world a better place?
- Repairing the world, rescuing the Earth: what can we learn from this Jewish idea?
- Who is inspired by Jesus' example of sacrifice?
- How do Muslims try to make the world a better place?
- How do non-religious people try to make the world a better place?
- Will we all be world-changers how can we make the world a better place?

What will I know by the end of the unit?

The 'Golden Rule' is - treat others how you would like to be treated.

Many Christians think that God made the world good and beautiful. Humans are free to choose how to live. This freedom is a gift from God. The Bible says we have spoiled our relationship with God and spoiled the world by making bad choices (called 'sin'). But God came to Earth (in Jesus) to rescue us and repair the damage. Now we need to make the world better too.

Many Jewish people think that the Almighty (G-d) created the Earth and everything in it, and he makes all things good. But the world needs to be mended all the time. Jewish people have an idea called 'Tikkun Olam.' It means to 'mend the world' and people work with God to make the world better. Anyone can join in.

Many Muslims think that every human is born submitted to Allah (God). But people turn away from God and do bad things. This can spoil our lives – and other people's lives too. But Allah has shown us the straight path to live by. It is called Islam. We try to follow the path and help make a better world.

Many Humanists think that the world is a wonderful and amazing planet, but it is not perfect – things go wrong, and people can be hurt. We can work together to make it better. We won't get any help from gods or goddesses, but we can make the world better ourselves.

Key Vocabulary

Christianity, Christian, Judaism, Jew, Islam, Muslim, God, Allah, belief, faith, religion, world, spoil, heal, repair, rescue, Tikkun Olam, sacrifice