



Unit U2.10 What matters most to Humanists and Christians?



Enquiry Questions

- Rules: do we need them? Who breaks them?
- Who is a Humanist?
- What codes for living do non-religious people use?
- What values matter most to Christians?
- What are the main agreements and disagreements about values between Humanists and Christians?
- Can we create a code for living that will help the world?

What will I know by the end of the unit?

A person often has a 'code for living' inside their head or heart that helps them to choose good things and to say no to bad things. Some people believe that there is a 'little voice' inside our hearts and heads that tells us what to do when we choose between good and bad. It may say 'be honest' or 'be kind' or 'be brave' or 'be gentle'. Every person chooses whether to follow this voice of conscience or not for themselves.

Christians believe that Jesus shows them the kind of values that God wants them to follow. In the Bible, Jesus tells people the two great commandments:

- Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your souls and with all your mind
- Love your neighbour as yourself

Humanists do not believe in a god. They believe it is possible to live a good and fulfilling life without following a traditional religion. They do not follow a holy book either. Instead, Humanists value traits like reason, and rely on science to explain the way things are.

Christians and Humanists agree about some values and disagree about others. Disagreement is always part of our human communities but does not have to lead to fighting and conflict. It is important to 'disagree respectfully'.

Key Vocabulary

Christian, Christianity, Humanist, Humanism, rules, commandments, values, beliefs, 'code for living', conscience, agree, disagree, respect