

Religious Studies Knowledge Organiser: Year 7 - 'How do I know what's right and wrong?'

Key terms:

Conscience - an inner feeling of the goodness or badness of an action

Ethical - something that relates to morals

Guilt - the fact of having committed a crime or offence

Immoral - not conforming to accepted standards of morality

Informed conscience - a conscience which has been developed through thought and prayer

Moral - the goodness or badness of an action

Reconciliation - bringing together people who were opposed to each other

Repentance - deep sorrow for a sin or wrongdoing

Temptation - the desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise

Ten Commandments - the divine rules of conduct given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai

Greatest Commandment - To Love God with all your heart, all your soul, with all your mind and all your strength and love your neighbour as yourself.

Why a Christian would follow the Bible to make a moral decision.

The Bible is the word of God and so is God's guidance to humans about how to make decisions. The Bible contains God's teachings on how Christians should behave. The Ten Commandments, for example, gives very clear guidance on such as; "*You shall not kill. You shall not steal*"

The Bible records events in the life of Jesus. This means many Christians ask themselves how Jesus would behave in this situation and then follow his example.

Sources that Catholics use to make a moral decision

Church - the community of Catholics that follow the teachings of the Pope

Bible - the holy books for Christians

Conscience - our inner voice that tells us right from wrong

Situation Ethics - choose to do the most loving thing

The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall not use false gods instead of me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath.
4. Honour your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against you neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour's spouse.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

Why a Catholic would follow their Conscience to make a moral decision

The Church teaches that in the depths of our being, each person detects a law which has not come from ourselves, but which we must obey. This law urges us to do good and avoid evil.

It is the voice of **conscience** and, at times, it gives specific such as - do this, avoid that. This law is written in our hearts by God. To obey it is the highest point of honour and we will be judged by it.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

1. Examination of conscience - Before going to confession a person must examine their conscience.
2. Confession of sins - A person confesses their sins to the priest.
3. Advice and Penance - The priest offers advice and a penance so that the person can try to make up for the damage done by their wrongdoing.
4. Act of Contrition - The person expresses their sorrow.
5. Absolution - The priest stretches out his hand and says the Prayer of absolution. The forgiveness of Jesus comes to the person through the priest.