

KEY NOTES SOR

CHRISTIANITY

KEY

- scripture
- denominational difference
- lived expression
- lived expression quote

1.1 paul of tarsus

1. JOURNEYS - MODEL OF SERVICE + EVANGELISATION

- “fish for people” (Luke 5:10)
- “do the work of an evangelist” (2 tim 4:5)
- Pentecostals = greater emphasis on evangelism i.e. open air preaching
- Alpha program -
 - “Alpha is a tool for evangelisation. Once guests experience Alpha, they understand who Jesus is and can start to explore their relationship with him.” (2024)
 - Although originally Anglican, now brings all people together to discuss faith and introduce people to Christianity

2. EPISTLES

- “Do you not realise that Christ Jesus is in you?” (2 cor 13)
- Influenced the Protestant reformation
 - “a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.” (Rom 3:28) = sola fide
 - Whereas St James taught, “Faith without deeds is dead,” (James 2:26) inspiring this belief in Orthodox churches
- Christian Women Communicating International Australia
 - Interdenominational organisation run by women for women to inspire connection with Jesus’ teachings.
 - Their Know Your Bible studies encourage continuous engagement with Paul’s epistles, such as their 2024 Term 3 focus on Paul’s letter to the Romans, “in this letter, Paul systematically sets out the most...thorough explanation of what the gospel is all about. And we find it is all about Jesus.”(KYB Study book Rom 1-8, Christina Keith, 2024)

3. BELIEFS - BODY OF CHRIST

- Love Makes a Way is an ecumenical movement of Christians seeking an end to Australia’s off-shore detention policies through prayer and nonviolent action
 - Unites adherents to uphold the dignity of all members of the BOC
 - They organised a Palm Sunday rally, to call “for justice and dignity to be shown towards people seeking asylum here in Australia and around the world.” (2024, facebook)
- Teaching of BOC is also used to support female ordination

- “There is neither Jew nor Gentile... nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Gal 3:28)
- However Paul’s writings inform both interpretations; Orthodox and Catholic churches only allow for male ordination, as “Women are to keep silent in the churches” (1 Cor 14)
- Kay Goldsworthy
 - First woman to be installed as Anglican Archbishop of Perth in 2018
 - However, is unable to preside as a priest in Sydney, as the Anglican Archdiocese of Sydney does not recognize female ordination

4. ETHICS - AGAPE THROUGH CHARITY

- “walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us ” (Ephesians 5:2)
- “carry each other’s burdens” (Gal 6:2)
- Anglicare’s mobile community pantry van program. These vans travel around Sydney providing food to the hungry.
 - “share the love of Jesus with people who need support.” (2024)
 - Encourages adherents to carry out “I was hungry and you gave me something to eat” (Mt 25:35)
 - Reinforces that Jesus’ love is lived through charitable acts
- Act for Peace, NCCA (ecumenical)
 - 2024 Gaza emergency appeal - gives Australians a way to donate to humanitarian assistance and protection for citizens in Gaza
 - “love in action” (2024, act for peace)

PAUL 2 PARA STRUCTURE

1. PAULINE THEOLOGY

- BOC
 - Gal 3:28
 - LMAW
 - Influences female ordination i.e. Kay goldsworthy
 - But 1 cor 14 also used by Catholic + Orthodox
- Salvation
 - Influence on protestant reformation
 - Rom 3:28 vs James 2:26

2. PAULINE ETHICS

- Agape
 - Eph 5:2 + Gal 6:2
 - Anglicare + NCCA
- Forgiveness = Paul emphasised that forgiveness is an act of charity, and is a method of making Jesus’ example of both love and mercy present in the world.
 - Adherents must be “compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” (Eph 4:32)

2.1 environmental ethics

1. GOD AS CREATOR

- "God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen 1:1)
- God's "creatures." (Psalm 104:24)
- Season of creation
 - Originally an Orthodox tradition = now ecumenically guides all to care for creation
 - "I invite Uniting Church communities to...consider what actions they might take for the flourishing of creation." (Rev Sharon Hollis, 2022).
- Majority viewpoint = Christians have a responsibility to maintain creation, and human actions impact and change it
 - Dr Katharine Hayhoe. Evangelical Christian environmentalist + climate scientist
 - "Caring about God's creation...is a faithful acceptance of our responsibility." (Speech, 2022)
- Minority viewpoint = believes that any environmental changes are part of His plan (James Inhofe, US Senator)
- "All things have been created by him and for him." (Col 1:17)

2. HS SUSTAINS CREATION

- Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be given "to help you and to be with you forever." (Jh 14:16-17)
- "Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." (Gal 5:25)
- "The Spirit of God has filled the universe with possibilities and therefore...something new can always emerge." (n 80, Laudato si)
- A Rocha - ecumenical environmental organisation.
 - "We commit ourselves, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to...conserve God's creation." (2024)
 - A Rocha African forest program - forest conservation. Preserves Atewa forest in Ghana, protects it from mining so it can become a national park.
- "the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." (Gen 1:2)

3. RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

- "Rule...over every living creature" (Gen 1:28)
- God put man on the earth to "take care of it." (Gen 2:15)
- "living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue" (no. 217, Laudato Si)
- Operation Noah - an Ecumenical Christian response to the climate crisis
 - "We believe that God's creation is a gift that we have a duty to care for" (2024)
 - Bright now campaign - calls for UK churches to invest in climate solutions, such as renewable energy, and divest from Fossil fuels.
- Cornwall alliance - Evangelical group that view climate change as a myth, and a threat they refer to as the 'green dragon'

3.1 describe Baptism

- “no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.” (Jh 3:5)
- Baptism was modelled by Jesus, “As soon as Jesus was baptised...a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”” (Matthew 3:16-17)
- Pentecostals and Baptists = adult baptism (believers baptism)
- Catholics, Lutherans and Orthodox = Infant Baptisms. (paedobaptism)
- Bridget Sakr, Catholic
 - Upholds Baptismal promises by following Jesus’ teaching to forgive “not 7 times, but 77 times” (Mt 18:22)
 - Suffered from loss of child and 3 nieces/nephews due to the actions of a drunk driver in 2020
 - Sakr forgave the driver, emphasising that “that’s what being Christ-like is about...showing compassion and mercy” (2023, SBS)
 - “I was taught always to serve, my Christian upbringing taught me to act on the needs of others.” (catholic weekly, 2022)
 - Sakr and her husband met with the parents of the driver in prison in 2020 at their café, Quatre, a safe space for others to meet and grieve.

3.2 Baptism beliefs

1. HOLY TRINITY

- baptised “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19)
- Anglicans and Catholics = affusion (pouring). Greek Orthodox and Baptists = immersion. Used three times to connect to Trinity.
- In the Catholic faith, a sign of the cross with Chrism oil is made on the child’s head. Acknowledges trinity.

2. DEATH + RESURRECTION

- The act of immersing then bringing someone up from the water mirrors death and resurrection of Jesus

3. SALVATION

- Symbol of water and white garment symbolises purification
- “Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved” (Mark 16:16)
- Dr Catherine Hamlin - An evangelical anglican
 - reinforces Baptism’s role in strengthening one’s faith and reaffirming beliefs for the adherent, “her trust and belief in fulfilling God’s work with love and devotion to others is something that we are all in awe of.” (SMH, 2020)
 - She worked as a surgeon in Ethiopia to help women with Obstetric fistula, through the Catherine Hamlin Fistula Foundation

3.3 significance of Baptism

1. INDIVIDUAL - servant leadership

- “for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Gal 3:27)
- Dedication to “the interests of others” (Phil 2:4)
- Washing of the feet, “I have set you an example...no servant is greater than his master” (Jh 13)
- While Baptism is greatly significant for most Christian denominations, some, such as Quakers and the Salvation army, don’t practise it.
- Bishop Vincent Long of Parramatta diocese reaffirms the significance of Baptism, as through his advocacy for refugees, he answers Jesus’s call to follow in his loving example of servant leadership.
 - “Addressing inequity and caring for the poor and vulnerable are not optional extras” (2024, catholic outlook)

2. COMMUNITY - BOC

- “for we were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body” (1 Cor 12:13)
- “There is neither Jew nor Gentile...for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Gal 3:28)
- Catholics, and Orthodox = Baptism as a sacrament that is necessary for Salvation vs protestant = sola fide
- Love Makes a Way is an ecumenical movement of Christians seeking an end to Australia’s off-shore detention policies through prayer and nonviolent action
 - “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (mt 25)
 - They organised a Palm Sunday rally, to call “for justice and dignity to be shown towards people seeking asylum here in Australia and around the world.” (2024, facebook) reinforcing Baptism’s significance in uniting the Christian community to uphold the dignity of all members of the body of christ,

JUDAISM

KEY

- scripture
- variant/streams difference
- lived expression
- lived expression quote

1.1 RASHI

1. Commentaries

- “The (Rashi) commentary resembles a living tutour; it explains the text in its entirety” (Hope Killcoyne, 2016)
- “It enables a student who is a beginner to understand the simple meaning of the text...and at the same time it contains incredible depth for the advanced scholar” (Orthodox Rabbi Chaim Konecowski, Cremorne Synagogue, email 2019)
- Rabbi Moss, leader of the Nefesh shul, Orthodox jew, “I live with Rashi every day. Thanks to him the holy words of the Torah are accessible to me, and I can know what God wants of me.” (2019, email)

- Sandy Hollis (Sydney Jewish Museum) stated that engagement with Rashi's commentaries is largely limited to Yeshivas and members of ultra-Orthodox communities (interview, 2019)

2. Yeshiva

- "Rashi changed the nature of Jewish education for hundreds of years" (Dr Henry Abramson, 2015)
- Sefaria, an online, free version of the Talmud, published the William Davidson edition in 2017; an english translation, with clear explanatory notes and mobile friendly online format.
 - "From an accessibility point of view, it's a game changer" (the times of Israel, 2017)
- *The Rashi school, Yeshiva in Boston, USA*

2.1 SEXUAL ETHICS

1. Niddah

- "Do not approach a woman to have sexual relations during the uncleanness of her monthly period." (Lev 18:19)
- "Ceremonially clean." (Lev 15:28)
- "The niddah period and the mikvah immersion have recently seen a renaissance of observance in the Jewish community." Couples find "it adds a spiritual, divine dimension to their relationship." (Chabad North Shore Mikvah, 2024)

2. Contraception

- "he did not create it [the earth] to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited" (Isaiah 45:18)
- "Be fruitful and multiply" (Gen 1:28).
- "he spilled his semen on the ground... What he did was wicked in the LORD's sight" (Gen 38:9-10)
- Progressive Rabbi Saul David Bochko, "If the other ways of birth control don't work for the woman... it is permitted to use condoms" (jerusalem post, 2020)
- *Talmudic teaching: The Beraita of the Three Women, 3 types of woman can use a 'moch'; a minor, a pregnant woman, or a nursing woman.*

3. Homosexuality

- "Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable" (lev 18:22)
- The Rabbinical Council of Australia and New Zealand is developing a set of guidelines for Orthodox rabbis to engage with gay adherents.
 - Orthodox Rabbi Glasman, "We can and should be encouraging gay religious Jews to stay connected to their faith." (Australian jewish news, 2020)
- "God created mankind in his own image" (Gen 1:27) (B'tzelem Elohim)
- "Same sex couples are welcome, and there is no distinction" (Conservative Rabbi Rafi Kaiserblueth, emanuel synagogue, sydney 2023)
- Dayenu = Sydney Jewish LGBTQIA+ community which provides advocacy and support

3.1 DESCRIBE MARRIAGE

- "a man... is united to his wife, and they become one flesh." (Gen 2:24)
- Progressive Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio, "the ocean is a natural mikvah and many of the couples I marry choose the ocean as the place to immerse." (SOR In-focus, 2024)

3.2 MARRIAGE EXPRESSING BELIEFS

1. One God

- “God blessed the seventh day” (Gen 2:3)
- “Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, who created everything for His glory.” (Shevra Berakhot)
- “The Lord is our God. The lord is one” (Deut 6 - Shema)

2. Covenant

- “Behold you are sanctified to me with this ring, according to the law of Moses and Israel.”

3. Moral law

- “It is not good for the man to be alone” (Gen 2:18)

3.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF MARRIAGE

1. Individual

- COVENANT: “Marriage and family are understood as holy obligations; making a covenant with another human being is part of fulfilling our covenant with God.” (Conservative Rabbi Elianna Yolkut, jewish values online, 2020)
- COMPANIONSHIP: “Marriage is the beginning of your freedom... To be loved by choice is a very uplifting and powerful force.” (Orthodox Rabbi Moss, 2012, youtube)
- FAMILY: “little sanctuary” (Ezekial 11:16)

2. Community

- UNIFYING: Emanuel Synagogue - Held the first jewish same-sex marriage in Australia in 2018
 - “Every one of us was created B'tzelem Elohim (in the image of God)... Therefore we see the LGBTI Jewish community as an important part of our community and it's important for us to empower them.” (2024)

JUDAISM KEY TERMS

- Halacha/halachic = law
- Chumash = printed copy of torah used for Synagogue
- Responsa = A text that contains replies made by rabbinic scholars in answer to submitted questions about Jewish law
- Yeshiva (singular)/ Yeshivot (plural) = Jewish school where Talmud is studied
- Tosafots = works written by Rabbi Solomon ben Isaac's students
- Mitzvah (singular)/ Mitzvot (plural) = Commandments in the Torah
- Niddah = period of separation during the women's period
- Mikvah = ritual purification. Women immerse in a mikvah pool after the 7th day of 'cleanliness' (no blood). Only after this, can sex be resumed
- Onan = refused to impregnate his brother's wife and wasted semen. Guides accepted methods of contraception, being those that don't waste or damage sperm
- Moch = contraceptive device
- B'tzelem Elohim = in the image of God
- Kallah = bride
- Chatan = groom

- Aufruf = 'calling up' to the Synagogue to read from the Torah and have an aliyah blessing the Shabbat before the wedding.
- Badkeken = unveiling ceremony, recalls Jacob being tricked into marrying Leah
- Chuppah = wedding canopy.
- Hakafot = Kallah circles Chatan 7 times.
- Kiddushin = betrothal/sanctified/holy, first stage of marriage process.
- Birkat Erusin = initial blessings over wine. Initiate beginning of Kiddushin. Praise and thank God.
- Ketubah = Jewish marriage document. Details obligations and dictates requirements for divorce (get)
- Nisuin = second part of marriage process
- Sheva Berakhot = 7 wedding blessings, begins Nisuin
- Yichud = couples break their fast together in a private room. Time for reflection.
- Beshert = soul mate
- Shalom Bayit = peace in the home

ISLAM

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1.1 A'ISHA

1. Hadith

- Hadith narrated by A'isha; ""Should I fast while travelling?" The Prophet replied, "You may fast if you wish, and you may not fast if you wish."" (hadith) (swam)

2. Revelations - affair of the Slander

- "Those who accuse chaste women of adultery and fail to produce four witnesses...are truly liars in the sight of Allah." (Sura 24:4-13)

3. Battle of the camel

- Many Shi'a muslims disregard her influence due to her opposition of Ali, who Shia believe to be Muhammed's rightful successor.

4. Mother of believers/ example of submission/ role model/ impact on practice

- Salat - "purify yourselves with clean earth, wiping your faces and hands." (Sura 4:43) (Tayyaumum)
- Zakat - narrated by A'isha about herself, "She asked me for charity but she found nothing with me except one date-fruit, so I gave it to her" (hadith)
- World Hijab day
 - Online site for the global movement to prevent Hijab discrimination
 - Aisha's "contributions to the development of Islamic thought and practice were instrumental in shaping the Muslim world." (2023)
 - "A trailblazer for women's rights"

- “Not only did she influence the position of women in Islamic society, Islamic ethics, and the understanding and interpretation of the Qur’an, but she also modelled these qualities for the men, women and children of Islam.” (Islamic Sciences and Research Academy (ISRA) 2017)

2.1 BIOETHICS

1. Bioethical principles

- Human life is sacred
 - “Do not take a human life—made sacred by Allah” (Sura 17:33)
 - “We created humans in the best form.” (Sura 95:4)
- Perception of suffering
 - “Do not curse the fever, for verily it forgives sins” (hadith)
 - “Allah does not require of any soul more than what it can afford.” (Sura 2:286)
- Seeking treatment
 - “Treat sickness , for Allah has not created any disease except He has also created the cure” (hadith)
- Necessity/lesser of 2 evils
 - “be mindful of Allah to the best of your ability” (Sura 64:16)

2. Abortion

- “Allah sends an angel to breathe the soul into his body.” (hadith)
- Variance in Madhabs
 - Hanafi Sunni - before 120 days abortion in Makruh. After this time it is haram
 - Hanbali Sunni - abortion is unethical after 40 days
- SANCTITY: Because “life is sacred and highly valued...abortion is considered unlawful and a major sin in Islam regardless of the stage of pregnancy” however at 120 days “abortion becomes a greater degree of sin” (ANIC, 2019)
- 2 EVILS: “The survival of the mother takes precedence because her life is evidently established, while survival of the foetus within her is relatively more doubtful.” (Yaqeen Institute, 2022)

3. VAD

- Australian National Imams council, (2017)
 - “There is no provision in Islam for ending one’s life by means of assisted or active euthanasia” Because, “life is a divine trust”
 - TREATMENT: “An adult in full control of his or her faculties is entitled to refuse medical treatment without which that person may die. ”
- PERCEPTION: “Life and its suffering are a transient test...intended to leave us as better moral creatures” (Yaqeen institute, 2020)

3.1 DESCRIBE HAJJ

- “Pilgrimage to this House is an obligation by Allah upon whoever is able” (Sura 3:97)
- “Whoever performs Hajj...will come out as the day he, or she, was born — pure and free from sins.” (hadith)

3.2 HAJJ EXPRESSING BELIEFS

1. Tawhid

- “Complete the pilgrimage...for Allah” (Sura 2:196)
- Wuquf - “go forth with the rest of the pilgrims. And seek Allah’s forgiveness” (sura 2:199)
- Talbiyah - “*Verily all praise, favour and authority belong to you. No partner do you have*”

2. Rusul

- “We entrusted Abraham and Ishmael to purify My House for those who circle it” (Sura 2:125)

3. Akhira

- “The most gracious, the most merciful” (Bismallah)
- “The reward for an accepted Hajj is nothing except paradise” (hadith)

4. Malakia

- Angels “are your supporters in this worldly life” (Sura 41:31)

3.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF HAJJ

1. Individual

- **PEACE:** Maryam Gul
 - Lost her mother, father, brother in the Christchurch mosque massacre.
 - She performed Hajj in 2019. Part of a group paid for by King Salman
 - “I thought I am looking at a symbol, a symbol of peace...I am more in peace now. I’m more concentrated on doing and spreading peace” (2019 CNN)
- **ELEVATION:** Gamal Fouda
 - the imam at the Al Noor mosque, one of the two mosques that were attacked
 - leader of the king’s group of 200.
 - “This is a golden chance for people to get spiritual elevation.” (Voice of America, 2019)
- **UMMAH:** “During the Hajj journey there is such a beautiful sense of Islam in its truest form” (Zara Mohammed, a Hajja, 2018, the independent)

2. Community

- **UNITING:** Hajj “brings together the global Muslim community...synchronised in a profound ritual before the One God as a single family despite their differences” (Yaqueen institute, 2024)
- **COMMUNITY:** “The most important thing is that the New Zealand community, including Muslims, they stood together against hate” (Gamal Fouda, Voice of America, 2019)

ISLAM KEY TERMS

- Kaaba in Mecca. Built by Ibrahim and Isma’il
- Ihram = a sacred state which a Muslim must enter before Hajj. They cleanse and don white robes. It is an equaliser and renunciation of past life.
- Tawaf = circumambulation 7 times around the Kaaba
- Black stone = southeast corner of Kaaba. Given to Ibrahim by Jibril.
- Sa’y = brisk walk 7 times between Mt. Safa and Mt. Marwah. Recalls Hagar and her son Isma’il looking for water, when the Zamzam water was revealed by Jibril
- Wuquf = day of standing at Mt. Arafat. Pinnacle of Hajj. They ask for forgiveness and pray. Recalls Adam and Eve being forgiven at Arafat.

- Jamarat = stoning of 3 pillars. Re-enacts story of Ibrahim who was confronted by the devil and ordered by Jibril to reject him by throwing stones. Represents rejecting temptation.
- Eid al-Adha = festival of sacrifice. Recalls when Ibrahim was to sacrifice his son, Isaac, but instead sacrificed a ram. They organise the slaughtering of sheep and have its meat distributed to needy people
- Halq = shaving head after Hajj. Taqir = trimming hair. Required by men to leave Ihram
- Tawhid = belief in oneness of Allah
- Rusul = belief in prophets
- Books of Allah = belief in the books revealed to humanity by Allah
- Akhira = belief in the afterlife
- Jannah = paradise
- Jahannam = hell
- Malaika = belief in Angels
- Qadar = belief in predestination/fate

RELIGION AND PEACE

KEY

- scripture
- lived expression
- LE quote
- denomination

CHRISTIANITY

INNER PEACE

1. PRAYER

- Jesus is the “prince of peace” (Isaiah 9:6)
- Jesus’ prayer in Gethsemane before his crucifixion when an angel “strengthened him” (Lk 22:43)
- “present your requests to God. And the peace of God...will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil 4:7)
- Bridget Sakr, a Catholic
 - used prayer in an attempt to gain inner peace, after her child and 3 nieces/nephews were killed by a drunk driver.
 - She established Heartfelt Community, whose Online gatherings allow people to start the healing process through prayer.
 - While she acknowledges that “grief never goes away,” Sakr explains that “God carries us and that’s how I’ve been able to get through what I’ve gotten through” (SBS, 2023) emphasising that prayer provides strength/support during hardship by sustaining a relationship with God.

2. FORGIVENESS

- Beatitudes - “blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy” (Mt 5:7)

- At the pinnacle of his suffering on the cross, Jesus exclaimed, “father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Lk 23:34)
- Kairos, interdenominational Christian ministry
 - reaches out to incarcerated individuals, and their loved ones, to encourage sustainable meaning and hope.
 - Their courses, Kairos Inside + Outside, introduce and model Jesus’ forgiveness in order to answer the call of Mt 25, ‘I was in prison and you visited me,’ (Mt 25) and “to enable a vision of the abundant life that a relationship with Jesus gives.” (Kairos, 2024) revealing that forgiving others and even one’s self, frees the adherent from past challenges, allowing them to find peace and comfort in a right relationship with God.

WORLD PEACE

1. LOVING ONE’S NEIGHBOUR

- love your neighbour as yourself” (Gal 5:14)
- Good samaritan - “go and do likewise” (Lk 10:37)
- Builds KOG, a place of “righteousness and peace” (Rom 14:17)
- Baptist world aid Australia, a Baptist organisation
 - “as Christians, we need to be firstly formed by the Prince of Peace” (2024).
 - Good neighbour appeal, collects donations for Syrian refugees inside the Lebanese border without food and shelter
- Anglicare Mobile Community Pantry van Program

2. SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Beatitudes - “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Mt 5:10)
- “Share with the Lord’s people who are in need” (Rom 12:13)
- “seek first his kingdom and his righteousness” (Mt 6:33)
- NCCA 2023 Public Statement Gaza conflict, an ecumenical organisation which attempts to bring together Australia’s churches for social justice efforts.
 - “Only justice will lead to peace, safety, and security for all.” (World council of churches, General secretary Rev Jerry Pillay)

3. BODY OF CHRIST

- “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace” (Col 3:15)
- “make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace” (Eph 4:3)
- “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Mt 25)
- Love makes a way (ecumenical movement)
 - Seeking an end to Australia’s off-shore detention policies
 - Reinforces that the teaching of the body of Christ unites the christian community in peace to uphold the dignity of all its members
 - organised a Palm Sunday rally, for “for justice and dignity to be shown towards people seeking asylum.” (2024)

4. SOCIAL UNITY/INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- "Live in harmony with one another" (rom 12:16)
- "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." (1 john 4:8)
- *"the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone"* (2 tim 2:24)
- *"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak"* (James 1:19)
- *"Give to everyone what you owe them...if respect, then respect."* (rom 13:7)
- Sydney Statement; Columban centre for christian-muslim relations
 - The Sydney Statement is a charter that details how to engage in interfaith relations in Multifaith Australia, challenging all to sign-up for peace through unity.
 - They commit themselves to "promote mutual respect, understanding and cooperation between believers." (Syd statement, 2020)

ISLAM

INNER PEACE

- *"Spread peace and you will receive peace"* (Hadith)
- *"Whoever has faith in allah, he will rightly guide their hearts through adversity"* (Sura 64)

1. HAJJ

- "Allah guides those who seek His pleasure to the ways of peace, brings them out of darkness and into light by His Will" (Sura 5:16)
- *"There will certainly be no fear for the close servants of Allah, nor will they grieve."* (10:62)
- "The reward for an accepted hajj is nothing except paradise" (hadith)
- Maryam Gul
 - lost her mother, father, brother in the Christchurch mosque massacre.
 - She performed Hajj in 2019. Part of a group paid for by King Salman of Saudi Arabia
 - "I thought I am looking at a symbol, a symbol of peace...I am more in peace now. I'm more concentrated on doing and spreading peace" (2019 CNN)

2. SALAT

- Allah is "the Source of Serenity" (Sura 59:23)
- "establish prayer for My remembrance." (Sura 20:14)
- "Seek comfort in patience and prayer. Allah is truly with those who are patient" (Sura 2:153)
- Amaliah, Media company dedicated to amplifying the voice of Muslim women
 - Article, 'Finding peace in Pausing' (2023), details the many ways in which Muslim women find time to reaffirm their connection with Allah, referring to faith as a "constant anchor throughout life's challenges."
 - One participant, Sherine, revealed formal Salat as her method of reaching peace, "connecting with my creator through 5 daily contact prayers...gives me the stillness and calmness to get out of my head and feed my soul"

3. FORGIVENESS

- *"it is in the remembrance of Allah that hearts find peace"* (13:28)

- “whoever pardons...their reward is with Allah” (42:40)
- Allah’s role as “the most merciful” (bismallah)
- Fahrid Ahmed
 - Lost his wife in the Christchurch mosque massacre, but chose to forgive the attacker.
 - forgiveness “is a teaching of Islam...Islam is a religion of peace, forgiveness always wins the hearts, brings peace,” (2021, SBS)

4. SWAM

- “Fasting is prescribed for you...so perhaps you will become mindful of Allah” (Sura 2:183)
- “Whoever observes fasts during the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith... all his past sins will be forgiven” (hadith)
- *“The best Jihad is the one who strives against his own self for Allah” (hadith)*
- Abeda Ahmed, therapist who works with victims of sexual and domestic abuse.
 - Ramadan as catalyst for peace through forgiveness - Article, ‘Using ramadan to forgive those who have hurt us in the past’
 - Letting go through the spiritual transformation of Ramadan is “not only an opportunity to unshackle from the poisonous past but is also a means to gain eternal bliss and sakinah” (2021, Muslim Matters)

WORLD PEACE

1. SOCIAL UNITY/INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- “the believers are but one brotherhood, so make peace between your brothers” (49:10)
- “you shall not believe until you love one another” (hadith)
- *“Do not spread corruption in the land after it has been set in order.” (7:56)*
- Columban centre for christian-muslim relations
 - Letter from director in March 2024, called Muslim and jewish adherents in Australia to unity and for an end to war, “I choose to stand in solidarity with all victims, Israeli and Palestinian, Jews, Muslim and Christian”
 - “I seek the restoration of civil discourse that promotes truth, respect and harmony”
 - Interfaith dialogue in australia as a catalyst for spreading peace

2. JUSTICE THROUGH ZAKAT

- “Stand firm for justice as witnesses for Allah” (Surah 4:135)
- “pay alms-tax” (Surah 2:110)
- “O people, spread peace, feed the hungry...and you will enter Paradise in peace.” (hadith)
- Islamic relief worldwide
 - Collect zakat to provide relief for people living in war zones, poverty, and climate disasters.
 - They are committed to the Islam value of Social Justice (adl), “we empower poor and vulnerable people to have their rights fulfilled and to achieve their God-given potential” (2024)

RELIGION AND NON RELIGION

KEY

	lived expression
	lived expression quote
	stats/numbers

1.1 expression of religious dimension

1. ANIMISM

- Shintoism
 - Majority religion in Japan, 70% of pop
 - Belief in and worship of Kami = spirits, elements of the landscape.
 - Many Japanese homes set aside a shrine called a kami-dana (kami shelf) where they may make offerings and say prayers
 - 80,000 communal shinto shrines in Japan

2. POLYTHEISM

- Hinduism = both monotheistic + polytheistic
 - Brahman = eternal origin of all existence
 - Hindu gods represent different expressions of Brahman
 - Principle Gods;
 - Brahma = creator.
 - Vishnu = preserver.
 - Shiva = destroyer
 - Lakshmi = devi of prosperity and wealth

3. MONOTHEISM

- Judaism, Islam, Christianity

1.2 significance of religious dimension

1. MEANING AND PURPOSE

- Leila Abdallah
 - “If it wasn’t for my faith, I wouldn’t be standing where I am today” (Eternity news, 2021)

2. SOCIAL COHESION

- Love makes a way

3. SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

- 2024 NCCA Act for peace gaza emergency appeal
 - A way for Australians to donate to the relief effort
- Islamic relief worldwide
- Baptist world aid australia

1.3 global distribution of religion

CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 31% of population, 2.2 billion people - Largest populations in; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USA 2. Brazil 3. Mexico 4. China - Largest religion in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USA - Australia - South Africa - Philippines - Brazil - South Korea - Italy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 23% of population, 1.6 billion people - Largest populations in; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. indonesia 2. Pakistan 3. India 4. Bangladesh - Largest religion in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indonesia - Malaysia - Saudi Arabia - Pakistan - Bangladesh - Egypt - Lebanon
<p>HINDUISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15% of population, 900 million people - Largest populations in; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. India 2. Nepal 3. Bangladesh 4. Sri Lanka - Largest religion in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India - Nepal - Mauritius - Why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No self-propagation - Reliant on indian culture - Very diverse 	<p>BUDDHISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6% of population, 488 million people - Largest populations in; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. China 2. Thailand 3. Japan (shinto largest, buddhist 2nd) 4. Myanmar - Largest religion in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - China - Thailand - Singapore - Myanmar - Sri Lanka - Mongolia
<p>JUDAISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0.22% of population, 14.9 million people - Largest populations in; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USA 2. Israel 3. France 4. Canada - Largest religion in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Israel - Why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Originated in Israel 'holy land' but persecuted - Jewish diasporas i.e. babylonian exile and enslavement - Holocaust 	

Predominant religions in;

- Africa = north is Islam, South is Christinaity

- Europe = Christian
- Australia = Christian
- Western asia/middle east = Islam
- South east Asia = Buddhist
 - India/Nepal = Hinduism
 - Sri lanka = buddhist
 - Philippines = Christian
- Indonesia = Islam
- North/South America = Christianity
- Bangladesh = muslim
- China = Buddhist
- NZ = majority no religion, but largest is Christianity

2.1 rise of NRE

- Astrology
- Numerology
- Mediation (ethical guidance)
- Crystals
- Mind, body, spirit festival
 - Held biannually, the Sydney festival offers a diverse range of activities to uplift the mind, body and soul
 - An attendee can buy crystals, have a physic reading etc
- Meetup = online platform to meet people
 - Have spiritual groups i.e. Sydney Spiritual Network to meet “like minded souls on a spiritual path” (2024, meetup)

2.2 growth of NRE

1. RISE OF MATERIALISM

- Prosperity gospel
 - Emerging belief among some Christians that donations to religious causes will increase one’s material wealth
 - Final success is seen as a sign of divine favour
 - The lakewood church, is led by Pastor Joel Osteen, whose net worth is estimated at over \$50 million, with his church taking in \$43 million a year in collections
- Hare Krishna
 - Derived from Hinduism
 - Focus on simplicity and living life with a belief that their bodies are temples of Krishna, rather than materialism

2. SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS

- Mindfulness/Yoga - mind body spirit festival
 - People may opt to embrace mindfulness or yoga as a spiritual practice, as these exercises do not contradict scientific knowledge

3. GROWTH OF ECOLOGICAL AWARENESS

- Spiritual ecology

- proposes that there is a spiritual facet to all issues related to conservation, environmentalism, and earth stewardship.
- The spiritual ecology retreat by initiatives of change australia encourages participants to build a relationship with the environment which “can nourish both personal and societal change” (2019, initiatives of change australia)

4. DISENCHANTMENT WITH TRADITIONAL RELIGION

- Royal commission into institutional responses to Child sexual abuse
 - Investigation into the nature and extent of child sexual abuse in religious institutions + attempts to prevent it from occurring
 - 4,000+ told them in private sessions that they were sexually abused as children in religious institutions.

3.1 agnosticism, atheism and humanism

1. AGNOSTICISM

- Daniel Radcliffe
 - “I personally am agnostic leaning toward atheism” (2019, new york post)
 - Contributes to many charities, such as Demelza Hospice Care for Children

2. ATHEISM

- Peter singer
 - Australian Philosopher and Atheist
 - Continually donates to charity and is an outspoken advocate for Animal rights as outlined in his book, Animal Liberation

3. HUMANISM

- Lyn White
 - 2019 Australian Humanist of the Year
 - Despite continually seeing cruelty she is “sustained by an unshakable belief in the human potential” (2019, CAHS)
 - Director of Strategy for Animals Australia - Australia's leading animal protection organisation.

4.1 atheism vs christianity

1. CONCEPT OF THE TRANSCENDENT

- Leila Abdallah vs Peter singer

2. THE HUMAN PERSON

- ‘A Good death’ interfaith statement on Voluntary Assisted dying legislation in Queensland (2019)
 - Enshrines the importance of sustaining the dignity of the human person with high quality end of life care rather than VAD
- Peter Singer argues in favour of voluntary assisted dying as he believes that the notions of the sanctity of life ought to be discarded as outdated, unscientific and irrelevant to contemporary bioethics

3. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Love makes a way

- Peter singer - founded charity, the life you can save, in 2013, which attempts to eradicate global poverty + researches charities which have the greatest impact

RELIGION IN AUSTRALIA POST-1945

KEY

- key terms
- lived expression
- lived expression quote
- stats/numbers

1.1 dreaming

1. KINSHIP

- Elder Bob Randall
 - Kinship is “the completeness of the oneness” (2006, Kanyini documentary) or Kanyini
- Tiwi islands/culture
 - Tiwi concept of Yiminga, meaning a person’s skin group (among other things) Determines many things i.e. who they can marry

2. CEREMONIAL LIFE

- The Smoking Ceremony, in which smoke is used to cleanse and heal.
- Corroboree is a ceremonial meeting when Aboriginal peoples interact with dreaming through music, costume and dance
- The Goanna is one of the totems of the Darug people
- Rainbow serpent tells the story of the ancestor being Goorialla
- Tiwi Pukumani Ceremony
 - A complex funeral ritual, involving art, dancing and smoking ceremonies. Culminates in the dreaming dance of the deceased, danced by those who share the same dreaming.

3. OBLIGATIONS TO LAND AND PEOPLE

- Baiame (sky father) cave sacred to the Woonarua people. Story of Baiame is unique to south-east Australia.
- Elder Bob Randall
 - “The Land owns us”
 - “Homeland for the Aboriginal person is your being”

1.2 continuing effect of dispossession

1. SEPARATION FROM LAND/KINSHIP GROUPS

- Gap between Aboriginal and non-aboriginal people; (ABC, 2024)
 - Around 8 years lower life expectancy
 - Increasing rates of adult incarceration, make up 30% of people in prison
 - Children 10.5 times more likely to be in out-of-home care

2. STOLEN GENERATIONS

- AIHW (2021) - Stolen Gen’s (50+)
 - 88% had not completed Yr12 level of schooling

- 71% had gov payments as their main source of income
- 2.7 x as likely as non-indigenous pop to have poor mental health
- AIHW (2021) - Descendents of Stolen Gen's
 - 1.9 x as likely to have experienced violence in the last 12 months

1.3 land rights

- Mabo decision 1992 = eddie mabo + Meriam people have traditional right to possess and live on land of Mer
- Native title act 1993 = recognition that first nations people have rights and interest to land and water according to traditional law
 - Exists where continuous connection maintained with land
- Wik decision 1996 = native title could co-exist in land subject to pastoral leases.
 - In any conflict, pastoralists' rights would prevail
- Native Title amendment act 1998 = worked in favour of leasehold title holders in response to pressure from rural investors who wanted to reduce potential rights of NT claims
- Middamia people
 - Formally recognized as native title owners of their land after 27 yrs
 - "I got the knowledge of the land and family connections, which I will pass on" (Elder Thomas Dodd, SBS, 2024)

2.1 census data

2021 CENSUS

- Christianity = 43.9%
 - Catholic, Anglican, UC
- No religion = 38.9%
- Islam = 3.2%
- Hinduism = 2.7%
- Buddhism = 2.4%
- Judaism = 0.4%

2.2 present religious landscape

CHRISTIANITY AS THE MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITION

- 43.9% currently, reduced from 52.1% in 2016

IMMIGRATION

- 1st wave
 - 1945-60 = 30,000 jews arrived
 - White australia abolished 1966 (definitely in 1973)
- 2nd wave
 - Arab israeli wars
 - End of vietnam war (1975) = accepted 120,000 refugees from Indochina
 - Lebanese civil war (1975-90)
- 3rd wave
 - Afhaginsation, Iraq and Syrian civil wars (2000s start)
 - Skilled migrants from asia with employment visas

DENOMINATIONAL SWITCHING

- Gabby Love (ABC, 2022)
 - Grew up Anglican, joined a pentecostal church but became disillusioned by their stance on LGBTQIA+ people, so joined the Leichhardt Uniting church instead.

2.3 ecumenism

- Ecumenism = the movement for dialogue and mutual understanding amongst christian denominations
- Uniting church (1977) = Presbyterians, Congregationalists and Methodists
- NCCA Act for peace gaza emergency appeal (2024)
 - Gaza statement 2023
- NSW Ecumenical Council (NSWEC)
 - March 2024, publically called on australian gov to restore UN funding to address humanitarian crisis in Gaza
- Only 28 people attended the NCCA's national online prayer and reflection during the May 2024 week of prayer for christian unity
 - Extent of Australia's 11 mil nominal christians engagement in ecumenism in questionable

2.4 inter-faith dialogue

- Interfaith dialogue = refers to co-operative and positive interaction between adherents of different religious tradition > greater understanding in broader australian community
 - Necessary as 61% of australians are religious (2021 census)
- A good death (2019) = interfaith statement on VAD legislation in QLD
- Columban centre for christian-muslim relations
 - Letter from director in March 2024, calling Muslim and jewish adherents in Australia to solidarity and an end to war, "I choose to stand in solidarity with all victims, Israeli and Palestinian, Jews, Muslim and Christian"
 - Interfaith dialogue in australia as a catalyst for global action

2.5 reconciliation

- Process of reconciliation = acknowledging past injustices, and the ongoing impact of these injustices, in order to build a relationship between aboriginal and non-aboriginal people based on respect.
- Uluru statement from the heart (2017) = calls for reform to realise indigenous rights through the establishment of an Indigenous voice to parliament and a Makarrata commission

ISLAM:

- Muslim Women Australia
 - "We support the Uluru statement" (2024, MWA)
- ANIC support for the voice
 - "The Voice will contribute to shaping a positive future for all Australians, and Australian Muslims should be a part of this significant change." (2023, ANIC)
- The 2019 'Islam in Australia' survey reported that 94% of Muslims agree that indigenous Australians should be recognised in Australia's constitution. (ABC, 2023)

CHRISTIANITY:

- Anglican Bishop of Bunbury apologises to Noongar people and acknowledged massacres on the land that Anglicans may have been involved in
 - “we offer a heartfelt apology to the Noongar...for the pain, violence, suffering and deep sadness of the past” (2023, ABC)
- However, not all support the Voice. For example, a 2023 Quadrant Online article urged Christians to vote against it.