

## Year 4 – Why do some people think life is a journey?

**Religions and worldviews:** Christians, Hindus, Jewish people

### Key Questions

What does a journey mean to us?  
 What is the significance of Baptism to Christians?  
 How do Jewish people mark becoming an adult?  
 What ceremonies do Hindus mark in the journey of life?  
 Why do people choose to get married?  
 Are all journeys similar? Can we compare the journeys of Christians, Jewish people and Hindus?

### By the end of the topic you will learn to:

- Suggest why some people see life as a journey and identify some of the key milestones on this journey.
- Describe what happens in Christian, Jewish, and/or Hindu ceremonies of commitment and say what these rituals mean.
- Suggest reasons why marking the milestones of life are important to Christians, Hindus and/or Jewish people.
- Link up some questions and answers about how believers show commitment with their own ideas about community, belonging and belief

### Key facts

A baptism is an initiation ceremony; the ceremony of confirmation is a fulfilment of promises made by parents during infant baptism.

Part of the significance of the Believer’s Baptism service is to express a commitment to belong to the Christian church.

Bar and Bat Mitzvahs mark the move for Jewish young people from childhood towards adulthood. In Orthodox Jewish communities, boys become Bar Mitzvah at the age of 13, girls become Bat Mitzvah at the age of 12 and the ceremony is often held on the Sabbath after their birthday.

Many Hindu religious practices and beliefs have their roots in a set of holy texts (the Vedas). The performance of duties (dharma) is according to an individual’s nature.



### Key Vocabulary

Baptism	An initiation ceremony in Christianity.
Bar/bat mitzvah	They mark the move for Jewish young people from childhood to adulthood. (Bat mitzvah – for a girl at 12 years old, bar mitzvah for a boy at 13 years old).
Declaration of faith	A phrase that is said by a member of any religion to show their belief and faith in the religion.
Initiation ceremony	A ceremony at the entrance or acceptance into a group or society. A formal admission to adulthood in a community.
journey	Travelling from one place to another.
Sacred thread ceremony	Traditionally for boys, in Hinduism. The child is given a ‘sacred thread’ which he must wear all his life.

--	--	--