

## Living Correctly as a Christian

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### Ethical Living

- **Ethical Living** – The conscious decision to make morally good decisions that affect others well.
  - ‘Treat others as you would want to be treated’ – The Golden Rule tells Christians to be kind to others if you wish for them to be kind to you as well.
  - Christians are also supposed to know what is right and wrong, they are supposed to know not to be jealous of others for having things that they don’t and finding a way to earn it themselves.
  - Ethical Living also extends to treating the world well as well, this is because Christians are supposed to be ‘Stewards of the Earth’. So they take environmentally conscious decisions.
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### Conservative and Liberal Views of the Bible

- Some Christians, these are called ‘conservatives’ believe that the Bible writers were inspired by God’s presence, but that ultimately they were human, and could make mistakes.
  - There may also be mistakes and cultural influences in the text according to conservatives but these are tiny and the Bible is unlikely to be false or able to be disregarded.
  - They also say that the Bible is relevant today, regardless of the cultural effects.
  - The Liberal view of the Bible says that the stories in the Bible are mythical and symbolic, or were a result of different ways of explaining the creation and process of the world.
  - Liberals also say that the Bible is an account of the writer’s own lives rather than from God.
  - As well as this, the Bible must be interpreted by each individual and so the overall authority is lessened because there is no definite meaning to the book.
  - Many Conservative Christians believe that it is impossible to be politically Liberal and a Christian because there are some teachings in the Bible that must be enforced like views on homosexuality and gay marriage, or rules about ethnic separation from in the past.
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### God and Miracles

- **Miracle** – An extraordinary and a welcome event that cannot be explained by nature and so is given a divine explanation such as the power of God or Jesus.
- Some Christians believe that miracles can happen today as a result of prayer.
- There are four types of miracles: Healings, Miracles of Nature, Raising from Death and Exorcisms. All of which were performed by Jesus in the Bible.

- Miracles show us God's power to intervene in the world, in life and the laws of nature. It also shows his all-loving nature which is where he cares for humanity and wants to help it.
  - Three of the most famous miracles; resurrection (Luke 7 v12-15), Curing for Leprosy (Matthew 8 v2-3) and Jesus controlling the weather (Mark 4 v37-39).
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## Personal Living

- Leaders of Churches are expected to be morally well-standing – though they can make mistakes.
- In the Catholic Church, priests are not allowed to have sex, whereas in most Protestant churches, celibacy is not a required condition to be a leader in the church.
- Christians should also not do the following things – this is merely a starting guide though:
  - Have sex outside of the marital bed.
  - Drink too much or take drugs.
  - Speak foul to/of other people, lie or swear (though churches may differ on the latter).
  - Hurt other people – especially in the case of fighting.