

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Religious Education; theme D, Religion, Peace &amp; Conflict</b> <a href="#">yr 10 Spring 25 booklet - Theme D - Religion peace and conflict.docx</a>
<p><b>About this unit:</b> This unit intends to introduce pupils to issues such as peace, conflict and whether war is ever necessary. It allows students to consider a range of different viewpoints and to reflect on the consequences of war globally. They will reflect on their own ideas, their peers and Christian perspectives.</p> <p><b>Teaching the Theme D:</b> Areas of this topic need to be taught sensitively, particularly when looking at terrorism. If there are concerns about a student's extreme views linked to this area then don't hesitate to report to the designated safeguarding lead which might be passed to PREVENT. Be prepared to challenge islamophobic views that students may confuse and associate with terrorism. Students should be encouraged to respect others' views even if they are different from their own.</p> <p><b>*Gatsby Benchmark link:</b> Philosophy &amp; Ethics enables students to use analysing skills when looking at a wide range of information and arguments and use their critical thinking skills to analyse and draw conclusions. It helps to develop communication skills through discussions and written work, interpreting and presenting a wide range of ethical and religious (faith) beliefs and alternative ways of life. Utilising these transferable skills, students apply them to current affairs, debates as well as social and ethical issues in their own lives. All skills needed in a variety of careers and life.</p> <p><b>Explain with examples the work of individuals and the worldwide Church in reconciliation</b> e.g. Desmond Tutu in South Africa, Coventry Cathedral and Taize</p> <p><b>Understand how Christians have responded to persecution</b> e.g. work of CSW and The Barnabas Fund</p> <p><b>Explain 3 things that CAFOD, Christian Aid or Tearfund do to support communities in need</b></p> <p><b>and understand the meaning and significance of key concepts including forgiveness, peace, justice and reconciliation</b></p> <p>and understand the UK law regarding protesting</p> <p><b>and understand Christian beliefs about violence including violent protest and terrorism.</b></p> <p><b>Christian attitudes towards the reasons for war</b> e.g. greed, self-defence and retaliation</p> <p>How to apply the Just War Theory to a specific war e.g. Falklands or Gulf War</p> <p>different weapons of mass destruction including nuclear, chemical and biological weapons</p> <p><b>the possible implications of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and consider whether their use can ever be justified. Including their use as a deterrent.</b></p> <p><b>Make links about the use of WMD to the condition or proportionality/excessive force in the Just War Theory</b></p> <p><b>Explore Christian attitudes towards the use of WMD</b></p> <p>Consider different views about whether religion is a cause of war and violence</p> <p><b>understand why some Christians are pacifists and support beliefs in pacifism with Biblical teachings and the example of Jesus</b></p> <p>Know about the work of a pacifist organisation e.g. The Anglican Pacifist Fellowship as well as a pacifist denomination like the Quakers</p>	

Understand what can be done to help victims of war:

Topic / lesson title	Key lesson objectives / essential knowledge	Key vocabulary	Assessment / extended writing / independent practice	Possible misconceptions	Careers / health and safety links (where applicable)
<p>L1. Intro to Religion, Peace and conflict</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 1. Introduction to religion, peace and conflict</a></p>	<p>To understand the key concepts of sanctity of life, peace, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation</p> <p>To explain the key Christian teachings on these.</p>	<p>War</p> <p>Peace</p> <p>Justice</p> <p>Forgiveness</p> <p>Reconciliation</p> <p>Sanctity of Life</p>	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <p>Explain two <b><u>religious beliefs about Justice.</u></b></p> <p>Refer to scripture of sacred writings in your answer [ 5 marks]</p>	<p>The sanctity of life only applies to human life.</p> <p>The sanctity of life means never ending life under any circumstance.</p> <p>Sanctity of life only concerns issues like abortion or euthanasia.</p> <p>Peace is simply the absence of conflict.</p> <p>Peace is a passive state of not engaging in conflict.</p> <p>Peace means everyone agreeing on everything.</p> <p>Justice means retribution or punishment.</p> <p>Justice means equal treatment for everyone in all situations.</p> <p>Justice is only about the legal</p>	<p>Sanctity of life offers Reflection on Divine Creation, Respect for all forms of life, Dignity of Each person</p> <p>Peace offers reflection on Inner peace, Peacemaking in relationships and global peace</p> <p>Justice offers reflection on divine justice vs. human justice, social justice and personal responsibility</p> <p>Forgiveness offers reflection on restoring relationships, reconciliation with self and reconciliation with the divine</p> <p>In summary, each of these concepts invites individuals to engage with deep, transformative questions about their beliefs, values, and actions. The spiritual reflections that emerge from contemplating these ideas can help people develop a more compassionate, just, and peaceful way of living. They also encourage individuals to look inward and</p>

				<p>system.</p> <p>Forgiveness means excusing or condoning wrongdoing.</p> <p>Forgiveness is a one-time event.</p> <p>Forgiveness requires the offender to apologize first.</p> <p>Reconciliation means forgetting or erasing the past.</p> <p>Reconciliation is always possible or should always be pursued.</p> <p>Reconciliation always leads to restored relationships.</p>	<p>outward, fostering growth both personally and within communities, leading to greater alignment with the divine, humanity, and the world around us.</p>
<p>L2. Protest and terrorism</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 2 protest and terrorism</a></p>	<p>UNDERSTAND UK LAW REGARDING PROTESTING.</p> <p>UNDERSTAND TERRORISM AS A MEANS OF CONFLICT.</p>	<p>Protest</p> <p>Violence</p> <p>Terrorism</p>		<p>Protests and terrorism are essentially the same.</p> <p>All violent acts in the name of political change are terrorism.</p> <p>Protesters are always motivated by noble causes, while terrorists are motivated by hate or irrational beliefs.</p>	<p>When reflecting on the concepts of protest and terrorism from a spiritual perspective, there are profound opportunities to explore the nature of human suffering, justice, resistance, and the ethical implications of actions taken in the name of a cause. Spiritual reflection in these contexts can guide individuals in understanding both the motivations behind these actions and the consequences they have on</p>

	<p>UNDERSTAND CHRISTIAN BELIEFS ABOUT VIOLENT PROTEST AND TERRORISM.</p>			<p>Protesters and terrorists both believe violence is the only way to create change.</p> <p>All protests are disruptive and dangerous to social order.</p> <p>Governments or authorities always respond to terrorism with effective and just measures.</p> <p>Violence is the primary characteristic of terrorism.</p> <p>All protesters resort to violence if they don't get what they want.</p> <p>Terrorism is always rooted in religious extremism.</p> <p>All religious people or groups that speak out against injustice are advocating for violence.</p> <p>Protesters are always opposed to the status quo or the existing government.</p> <p>Terrorists are always acting independently or without broader support.</p>	<p>individuals, communities, and societies. Here are some key areas of reflection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nature of Suffering and Oppression</li> <li>● Non-Violence and the Ethics of Resistance</li> <li>● Forgiveness and Reconciliation in the Context of Conflict</li> <li>● Human Capacity for Good and Evil</li> <li>● Pursuit of Justice</li> <li>● Peacebuilding and the Role of the Spiritual Community</li> </ul>
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<p>L3. Reasons for War</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 3. Reasons for war</a></p>	<p>To investigate and discuss the reasons and causes of war. To look at the positive and negative</p>	<p>Greed Self Defense Retaliation</p>	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p>	<p>War is always the result of leaders who are inherently evil, irrational, or power-hungry.</p> <p>Wars are always initiated by external aggression or invasions from other nations</p> <p>Wars are primarily fought over land or resources, such as the desire for territorial expansion.</p> <p>War occurs because diplomacy fails, and all wars could have been avoided with better negotiation or dialogue.</p> <p>War is always a conflict between nation-states or recognized governments.</p>	<p>some key opportunities for spiritual reflection on the causes of war:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Human Sin and Brokenness</li> <li>● Greed, Power, and Control</li> <li>● Injustice and Oppression</li> <li>● Fear and Self-Defense</li> <li>● Impact of Nationalism and Ideology</li> <li>● Cycle of Revenge and Hatred</li> <li>● Desire for Glory and Honor</li> <li>● Need for Reconciliation and Healing</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflection on the causes of war offers numerous opportunities to explore the deep moral, ethical, and theological implications of human conflict. It invites individuals to confront the roots of war—such as sin, greed, fear, and pride—and to seek spiritual solutions</p>

				<p>Wars are always driven by economic interests, such as greed for resources or wealth.</p> <p>War only happens in societies that are politically or socially unstable and that lack effective governance.</p> <p>Wars are always caused by religious differences or are framed as holy wars.</p> <p>War is inevitable and will always be a part of human society due to human nature or history.</p> <p>Wars are typically fought because of ideological conflicts, such as communism vs. capitalism, or democracy vs. dictatorship.</p> <p>Many wars are simply the result of misunderstandings or mistakes made by leaders or nations.</p> <p>The effects of war are confined to the battlefield and do not affect the broader society or future generations.</p>	<p>through justice, forgiveness, reconciliation, and peacebuilding. Ultimately, it calls people to engage in the ongoing work of peacemaking, grounded in spiritual principles, with the hope that lasting peace will one day be achieved.</p>
L4. Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of	To Know about different weapons of	Nuclear weapon Weapons of mass destruction	<b>assessment opportunities:</b>	Nuclear weapons are only dangerous when used in actual warfare, particularly in combat situations.	opportunities for spiritual reflection on nuclear weapons and WMDs:

<p>mass destruction</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 4. Nuclear weapons and WMD</a></p>	<p>mass destruction, including nuclear weapons.</p> <p>To know some of the arguments for and against nuclear weapons.</p> <p>To understand the possible implications of using nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction, and consider whether the use of such weapons is justified.</p>	<p>Chemical weapons Biological weapons</p>	<p><u>'Religious believers should not support weapons of mass destruction'.</u></p> <p><a href="#">lesson 4: model 12 marker WMD</a></p>	<p>Nuclear weapons are always fully controlled and safeguarded, with no risk of accidental use.</p> <p>The existence of nuclear weapons guarantees that wars will not occur because no country would risk nuclear retaliation.</p> <p>The destructive power of nuclear weapons is so overwhelming that no country would ever actually use them.</p> <p>Nuclear weapons are the only type of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).</p> <p>Nuclear weapons are only a threat to the countries that directly possess them.</p> <p>Nuclear disarmament is achievable in the near future and many nations are committed to eliminating their nuclear arsenals.</p> <p>Nuclear weapons are the most effective means of deterrence, and no other weapons or strategies can replace them.</p> <p>The threat of nuclear weapons and WMDs is a concern that only affects governments, military experts, or politicians.</p> <p>Nuclear weapons are always more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sanctity of Life and Human Dignity</li> <li>● Ethics of Power and Authority</li> <li>● Justice and the Protection of the Vulnerable</li> <li>● Threat to Creation and the Environment</li> <li>● Pursuit of Peace and the Call to Non-Violence</li> <li>● Role of Fear and the Need for Trust</li> <li>● Call for Advocacy and Action</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflections on nuclear weapons and WMDs offer profound opportunities to engage with critical questions of life, justice, peace, and the role of humanity in the world. They challenge individuals and communities to consider the ethical implications of possessing or using such weapons, the responsibility to protect life and creation, and the call to pursue peace through justice, non-violence, and reconciliation. Through this reflection, faith communities can be inspired to advocate for a world where the threat of nuclear destruction is no longer part of the human experience, fostering hope for a future of lasting peace and human dignity.</p>
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				<p>destructive than conventional weapons, such as bombs, missiles, or chemical agents.</p> <p>Nuclear weapons can be used in a limited, tactical manner on the battlefield without escalating to full-scale nuclear war.</p> <p>Weapons of mass destruction are a historical concern and are no longer a significant threat in modern times.</p>	
<p>L5. Just war theory</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 5. The Just War theory</a></p>	<p>To know the conditions of the Just War Theory.</p> <p>Apply the Just War theory to a contemporary war case study.</p> <p>Understand Christian religious beliefs on the Just war theory.</p>	Just War	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <p>‘The just war theory is the best religious response to whether it is right to fight.’</p>	<p>The Just War Theory can justify any war, as long as certain criteria are met.</p> <p>If a war fulfills the criteria of Just War Theory, it means that going to war is always justified and morally acceptable.</p> <p>The Just War Theory only applies to wars fought between nation-states in conventional warfare.</p> <p>Just War Theory is only concerned with determining if the war has a just cause, and other factors are less important.</p> <p>The Just War Theory can be easily manipulated to justify violent military actions or even unnecessary</p>	<p>key opportunities for spiritual reflection when examining the Just War Theory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sanctity of Life and the Ethics of Violence</li> <li>● Pursuit of Justice and the Morality of War</li> <li>● Call to Protect the Vulnerable and Promote Peace</li> <li>● Responsibility of Leaders and Authorities</li> <li>● Proportionality of Force</li> <li>● Last Resort Principle</li> <li>● Impact on Soldiers and Civilians</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflection on Just War Theory offers an opportunity to examine deeply held beliefs about the morality of war, the sanctity of life, justice, and peace. It challenges individuals and faith communities to weigh the ethical</p>

				<p>wars. Just War Theory only applies to wars fought in defense of a nation's borders or sovereignty.</p> <p>Just War Theory does not apply to modern technologies, such as drones, cyber warfare, or biological weapons, since these are new forms of warfare.</p> <p>Just War Theory only concerns the morality of going to war and fighting the war itself, but does not account for the aftermath of the war.</p> <p>The Just War Theory can be used to justify wars that are fought to prevent future threats or conflicts, even if the threat is not imminent.</p> <p>Just War Theory is a modern development that only applies to contemporary conflicts.</p> <p>Just War Theory allows any political or ideological war to be justified as long as certain criteria are met.</p> <p>Just War Theory is solely concerned</p>	<p>implications of war, the responsibilities of leaders, and the ultimate goal of reconciliation and healing. This reflection often leads to a heightened awareness of the moral complexities surrounding conflict and a renewed commitment to work for peace in all spheres of life.</p>
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				with the morality of war and does not address the moral responsibility to pursue peace.	
L6. Holy War <a href="#">Lesson 6 Holy War</a>	<p>Understand the features of a Holy War.</p> <p>Consider whether religion should be a cause of war and violence.</p> <p>Understand Christian approaches to war and violence.</p>	Holy War	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <p>Explain two features of a holy war. 4 marks</p>	<p>Holy war is always sanctioned or endorsed by religious leaders or institutions.</p> <p>A holy war is simply any conflict fought by religious groups or in the name of a religious cause.</p> <p>Holy war is exclusively about religious conquest or spreading faith by force.</p> <p>All religions encourage or condone the idea of holy war.</p> <p>Holy war provides blanket justification for any kind of violence, atrocities, or war crimes.</p> <p>Holy war is an outdated concept that only applies to historical periods, such as the Crusades or ancient conflicts.</p> <p>Holy war is viewed as an obligatory religious duty for all believers within a particular faith tradition.</p>	<p>opportunities for spiritual reflection when looking at Holy War:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sanctity of Life and the Ethics of Violence</li> <li>● Role of Divine Authority in Conflict</li> <li>● Danger of Religious Extremism</li> <li>● Justice and the Morality of Holy War</li> <li>● Responsibility of Leaders and Followers</li> <li>● Risk of Dividing Communities and the World</li> </ul> <p>Reflecting on the concept of <b>Holy War</b> offers numerous opportunities to engage with deep ethical, theological, and moral questions about the use of violence in the name of religion. Through spiritual reflection, individuals are invited to reconsider the justifications for war, to examine the core values of their faith, and to challenge the tendency to use violence as a means of resolving religious or political conflicts. Ultimately, this reflection calls believers to seek peace, reconciliation, and justice in line with the</p>

				<p>The idea of holy war is unique to Islam and Christianity.</p> <p>Holy war is always violent and results in massive destruction and loss of life.</p> <p>Holy war can be used by individuals or groups to pursue personal glory, power, or territorial gain under the guise of religion.</p> <p>Holy war is guaranteed to result in ultimate victory for the faithful or the side fighting for the rightful religion.</p>	<p>values of their faith traditions, working toward a future where the pursuit of peace supersedes the pursuit of war</p>
<p>L7. Pacifism &amp; Peacemaking</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 7. Pacifism and peacemaking</a></p>	<p>To consider pacifism as an alternative to conflict.</p> <p>To understand why some Christians are pacifists.</p> <p>To know about the work of a</p>	<p>Pacifism Peacemaker Peacemaking</p>	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <p>Explain two contrasting religious beliefs about Pacifism [4 marks]</p>	<p>Pacifism means that a person or group will never use violence under any circumstances, including self-defense.</p> <p>Pacifism is just an unrealistic, utopian ideal that ignores the harsh realities of the world and does not address the need for self-defense or protection.</p> <p>Pacifism and peacemaking simply mean doing nothing, being passive, or avoiding confrontation, even when injustice is happening.</p>	<p>Here are several key opportunities for spiritual reflection when exploring pacifism and peacemaking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call to Love and Nonviolence</li> <li>● Pursuit of Peace as God’s Will</li> <li>● Role of the Church in Peacebuilding</li> <li>● Power of Forgiveness</li> <li>● Pacifism and the Mystery of Suffering</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflection on pacifism and peacemaking encourages believers to deeply consider the nature of conflict,</p>

	<p>Christian pacifist organisation and a Christian peacemaker.</p>			<p>Peacemaking requires compromising with evil or unjust systems and accepting the status quo, even if it means tolerating injustice.</p> <p>Pacifism means accepting violence when it happens, without protest or action, as a form of non-resistance.</p> <p>Peacemakers avoid conflict entirely and do not get involved in difficult or contentious situations.</p> <p>Pacifism is an apolitical philosophy that does not concern itself with political or social issues.</p> <p>Pacifism is simply about not participating in wars or military service.</p> <p>Pacifism is the same as non-violence, with no difference in emphasis.</p> <p>Peacemaking always leads to immediate, clear resolutions of conflict and violence.</p> <p>Pacifists are automatically anti-patriotic and refuse to support their country's defense or the</p>	<p>violence, and justice in light of their faith. It challenges them to live out a vision of peace that encompasses love for enemies, active nonviolent resistance to injustice, and the pursuit of restorative justice and reconciliation. Pacifism is not about avoiding conflict but engaging in it with love, mercy, and hope for transformation. By reflecting on the principles of peace in their own faith tradition, believers are called to embody the peace of God, working for reconciliation and justice both in their personal lives and in the world around them.</p>
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				<p>military in any capacity.</p> <p>Peacemaking means forgiving those who have committed grave injustices without holding them accountable.</p>	
<p>L8. Religious responses to victims of war</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 8. Religious responses to victims of war</a></p>	<p>To know what a victim of war is and understand what can be done to help victims of war.</p> <p>To know examples of Christian organisations that help the victims of war and why they do it.</p>	Refugee	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Give 3 victims of war .</li> <li>2. Name a Christian organisation that helps victims of war.</li> <li>3. How could the Parable of the Good Samaritan be used to demonstrate that Christians would want to help</li> </ol>	<p>Religious responses to war victims only concern spiritual care (e.g., prayer, pastoral support) and do not address the practical or material needs of survivors.</p> <p>Religious responses to victims of war focus solely on forgiveness and call for forgetting the suffering and injustices endured.</p> <p>Religious responses to the victims of war are non-political and focus only on charity, rather than advocating for systemic changes or justice.</p> <p>Religious responses encourage war victims to endure suffering passively without taking action to address their situation.</p> <p>Religious responses to victims of war are exclusively focused on members of the faith tradition, without concern for non-believers or people of other faiths.</p>	<p>Here are several opportunities for spiritual reflection when considering religious responses to victims of war:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Call to Compassion and Mercy</li> <li>● Restorative Justice and Healing</li> <li>● Call to Solidarity and Community</li> <li>● Responsibility to Advocate for Justice</li> <li>● Forgiveness and Reconciliation</li> <li>● Call to Pray for Peace and Victims</li> <li>● Role of Religious Communities in Refugee Support</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflection on religious responses to victims of war opens up opportunities to examine the depth of compassion, mercy, justice, and reconciliation within the context of suffering and conflict. It invites believers to engage with the core teachings of their faith traditions and to consider how they can respond to the needs of war victims in ways that embody Christ-like love, offer healing,</p>

			<p>victims of war?</p> <p>4. Give a practical way organisations could help victims of war.</p> <p>Explain two religious beliefs about the importance of helping the victims of war. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer[5 marks]</p>	<p>Religious responses to war victims are primarily based on pity or charity, seeing them as objects of mercy rather than active participants in their own recovery.</p> <p>Religious responses require immediate forgiveness of those who have inflicted harm, without addressing the emotional, psychological, or social healing that is necessary for both victims and perpetrators.</p> <p>Religious responses focus solely on the victimhood of individuals, without recognizing the potential for healing and restoration or the victims' ability to contribute to the peace process.</p> <p>Religious responses to war victims focus primarily on punishing the perpetrators, rather than restoring peace and seeking reconciliation.</p> <p>Religious responses to victims of war focus only on immediate relief and do not address long-term recovery or the prevention of future conflict.</p>	<p>foster reconciliation, and advocate for lasting peace. These reflections challenge individuals and communities to actively care for those affected by war, work for justice, and ultimately seek to bring about God's kingdom of peace and restoration.</p>
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<p>L9. Religious responses to reasons for war</p> <p><a href="#">Lesson 9. Religious responses to reasons for war</a></p>	<p>To learn the Christian responses to the reasons for war.</p> <p>Be able to give a detailed explanation of their views on greed, self defence and retaliation as reasons for war</p> <p>To evaluate how far the sanctity of life should affect a Christian view on war</p>	<p>Greed Self Defense Retaliation Sanctity of Life</p>	<p><b>assessment opportunities:</b></p> <p>Explain two contrasting religious beliefs about the causes of war. In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions. [4 marks]</p>	<p>Religions automatically justify war or encourage violence as a response to any form of conflict.</p> <p>Religions always promote or condone religious wars or holy wars, where religious identity is the primary cause of conflict.</p> <p>Religious responses to the reasons for war are primarily framed in secular terms, such as economic or political causes, without reference to spiritual or moral principles.</p> <p>Religions universally call for pacifism and categorically reject the idea of fighting in any circumstance.</p> <p>Religious responses to the reasons for war do not consider the political, economic, or social contexts in which conflicts arise.</p> <p>Religious teachings simply condemn war without offering any insight into the deeper causes or ways to prevent conflict.</p> <p>Religious responses always reject self-defense and preemptive action, even in cases of imminent threat.</p>	<p>Reflection in this area allows individuals to wrestle with complex theological, ethical, and practical questions, seeking to align their beliefs with God’s will for peace and justice.</p> <p>Here are several opportunities for spiritual reflection when considering religious responses to the reasons for war:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fallen Nature of Humanity and the Reality of Sin</li> <li>● God’s Desire for Peace and Justice</li> <li>● Need for Repentance and Transformation</li> <li>● Role of Empathy and Understanding in Preventing War</li> <li>● Promise of Ultimate Reconciliation and Peace</li> </ul> <p>Spiritual reflection on religious responses to the reasons for war presents opportunities to explore the deep moral, ethical, and theological questions surrounding conflict. By focusing on sin, justice, repentance, forgiveness, nonviolence, empathy, and hope, religious reflection can help individuals and communities discern how they might respond to the causes of war in</p>
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