

Subject		CDT - Christian Developed Thought	Topic	Knowledge of God's existence	Year Group	12
<p>The topic is the third in the CDT paper and follows Augustine and human nature and Life After Death. It explores two contrasting ideas about how for Christians, God may be known; revealed and natural theology. The topic builds on existing knowledge of the Fall and Hick's ideas of epistemic distance previously covered in Augustine when critically evaluating whether humans have the ability to truly 'know God'. Additionally it links back to Calvin's ideas on predestination when exploring knowledge of God through God's Grace.</p>						
Topic / lesson title		Key lesson objectives / essential knowledge	Key vocabulary	Assessment / extended writing / independent practice	Possible misconceptions	Careers / health and safety links (where applicable) Spirituality
Support materials		PLC - exam questions - summary notes - textbook scan				
Lesson 1 Introduction introduction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to understand different ways of 'knowing' to understand two paths to knowing God's existence - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Natural Theology - reason - a priori / a posteriori (ii) Revealed Theology- Faith revelation <p>Natural Theology:</p>	A priori knowledge A posteriori knowledge Teleological Cosmological	Write an extended paragraph - How might a Christian argue that they have knowledge of God through creation. What might be the strengths and weaknesses of these views ?	Difference between revealed and natural - there is an overlap Application of a posteriori and a priori to natural theology.	Uncaused causer and infinite regression Does the world have a designer ? Blind watchmaker - Dawkins - validity ?

		<p>Evidence from God's creation - cosmological /teleological argument</p> <p>Romans 1 v 18-21 - St Paul and Natural Theology</p>				
<p>Lesson 2 Natural Theology</p>		<p>Natural knowledge of God's existence: As an innate human sense of the divine</p> <p>As all humans are made in God's image they have an inbuilt capacity and desire to know God including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it is to know • Human openness to beauty and goodness as aspects of God. • Human intellectual ability to reflect on and recognise God's existence. • Explore the concept of the imago dei. • John Calvin and the sensus divinus and semen religionis. • Calvin's view that the Fall damages our ability to know God. • Conscience <p>Acts 17:16-34 – Paul in Athens</p>	<p>Faith Empiricism Revelation Grace Natural theology Revealed theology Fideism Sensus divinus Semen religionis Imago dei</p>	<p>Read Eyre and Waterfield p30</p> <p>Give 4 bullet points explaining Calvin's Sensus Divinitatis</p> <p>What does the key quote say (in plain English)</p> <p>Which of the strengths and weaknesses of Natural Theology that are listed would apply to Calvin's view?</p> <p>Bonus : Read about Calvin's sensus divinus and 'seed of religion' in the resources you</p>	<p>What is meant by innate.</p> <p>Relating the different ideas specifically back to how they support Christians to have knowledge of God.</p>	<p>Do we all have natural inclination to follow rituals and religion ? (semen religionis)</p> <p>Do all humans have the capacity to reflect and recognise God's existence ? If so , why don't all people have religious beliefs ?</p>

		<p>Romans 1 v 18-21</p>		<p>have available</p> <p>Read analyse and evaluate on page 31</p> <p>Draw a version of the table Number each column 1 -3 - rank arguments in order of effectiveness</p> <p>Write a summary paragraph to the essay 'God can be known through reason' Discuss</p>		
<p>Lesson 3</p> <p>Revealed Theology</p>		<p>Revealed Theology: Faith and Grace</p> <p>As humans are sinful and have finite minds. Natural knowledge isn't sufficient to gain full knowledge of God; knowledge if god is possible through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Faith ▶ Grace as God's gift of knowledge of himself through the Holy Spirit 	<p>Calvin - mirror analogy to support natural theology</p> <p>Fideism</p> <p>Grace</p>	<p>Using handout: Aquinas and /faith - Kierkegaard</p> <p>How does the fall affect our ability to know God?</p> <p>State 3 things that Aquinas believes about faith.</p> <p>What is</p>	<p>Differences between Protestant and Catholic view of the revealed theology</p> <p>- Protestants - humans are fallen and need God's intervention to have full knowledge of</p>	<p>What is Grace ?</p> <p>Links to predestination and Calvin - would a lovely God only save a limited few ?.</p>

				<p>Kierkegaard's definition of faith?</p> <p>What is Calvin's view on how people come to faith? How does predestination affect his view of faith?</p> <p>How does God's grace affect what we are able to know?</p>	<p>him</p> <p>- Catholics - revealed knowledge is required because of huge difference between and and humanity</p>	
<p>Lesson 4</p> <p>Revealed versus natural theology</p>		<p>Can Reason bring us to knowledge of God?</p> <p><i>(or is that only possible through Revelation?)</i></p>	Fideism	<p>Complete table on A3 sheet.</p> <p>Ensure reference is made to different scholarly views and Bible teachings.</p>	<p>Faith, Grace Holy Spirit from both Catholic and Calvin perspectives</p>	<p>What role does the Holy Spirit play in faith and grace ?</p> <p>How is faith similar to and different from (a) science (b) opinion (c) belief ?</p>
<p>Lesson 5</p> <p>Does the fall prevent us knowing God ?</p> <p>Barth and Brunner</p>		<p>Do the long term effects of The Fall mean we cannot know God?</p>	<p>Barth</p> <p>Brunner</p> <p>Calvin</p> <p>Reason</p> <p>Sensus divinitus</p>	<p><i>Does the fall damage reason ?</i></p> <p>P1 - Brief overview of</p>	<p>Barth influenced by Luther/Calvin - Hence Barth criticises the idea that Natural Theology is</p>	<p>Is humanity fundamentally flawed ?</p> <p>Does the Fall mean humanity is unable to</p>

				<p>Natural Theology vs Revealed Theology</p> <p>P2 - What is the Fall - why might it damage reason?(Augustine, Calvin)</p> <p>P3 - Scientific criticisms of Fall (Dawkins)</p> <p>P4 - Philosophical criticisms of Fall (Kant)</p> <p>P5 - Barth-Brunner debate</p> <p>P6 - Aquinas on reason - ext</p>	<p>possible Brunner - influenced by Aquinas - natural theology is – at least in theory - possible.</p>	<p>know God ?</p>
<p>Lesson 6 Fideism - the value of faith</p>		<p>Revealed theology:</p> <p>As humans are sinful and have finite minds, natural knowledge is not sufficient to gain full knowledge of God; knowledge</p>	<p>Mediate revelation Immediate revelation Holy Spirit</p>	<p><i>Extended writing:</i> essay title 'Is faith sufficient reason for belief in God's existence ?'</p>	<p>Use of different scholars - Need to be secure in knowledge of</p>	<p>How can there be contact/common ground to enable the believer to discuss with the non-believer</p> <p>HARDER: Relies on a</p>

		<p>of God is possible through: Faith, and Grace as God's gift of knowledge of himself through the Holy Spirit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation of Special Revelation and Revealed Knowledge. • Immediate and mediate revelation. • Aquinas on the nature of faith. • Revelation in Scripture. 			<p>their views on faith.</p> <p>Augustine Calvin Kierkegaard Aquinas</p>	<p>belief in revelation and, if Barth is right, it is only possible to have faith if God allows it - is this fair?</p> <p>HARDER: Fideism is self defeating. If it claims to be true, it must have a truth test. Yet in offering justification for a belief, he/she is no longer a fideist.</p>
<p>Lesson 7 Jesus and the Bible</p>		<p>Revealed Theology:</p> <p>Revealed knowledge of God's existence in Jesus Christ;</p> <p>Full and perfect knowledge of God is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ and through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The life of the Church • The Bible <p>Full and perfect knowledge of God is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ and through the life of the church and The Bible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus as an example of Special Revelation. • John Calvin's belief that Jesus 	<p>Calvin Double grace Chalcedonian definition ArianControversy</p>	<p><i>Task 1</i> Using the textbooks complete the A3 table</p> <p><u>Stretch and challenge</u> use Religious Studies for OCR</p> <p><i>Task 2</i> Complete activities 1-4 in Developments in Christian Thought.</p> <p><u>Stretch and</u></p>	<p>Double grace in Christ is the idea that Christians receive both justification and sanctification through faith in Christ. This doctrine was taught by the 16th century pastor John Calvin.</p> <p>Explanation</p> <p>Justification: Being reconciled</p>	

		<p>was literally God in human form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calvin on knowing God as redeemer in Jesus Christ. • Double grace in Christ. • The Chalcedonian definition. • The Arian Controversy. 		<p><u>challenge:</u> add Bible references</p>	<p>to God through Christ's blamelessness</p> <p>Sanctification: Being made more like Jesus through Christ's spirit</p> <p>Calvin believed that justification and sanctification are inseparable, and that Christians receive both through faith in Christ. This means that Christians are justified by faith alone, and that sanctification is a result of that justification</p>	
<p>Lesson 8 Comparing natural and revealed theology</p>		<p>Whether or not natural knowledge of God is the same as revealed knowledge of God</p> <p>Psalm 19:1 - link between Bible</p>	<p>comparison evaluation</p>	<p>Extended thinking task;;</p> <p>“Critically compare natural and</p>	<p>The order of creation : Calvin</p> <p>Read the quotes</p>	<p>Can something which is transcendent ever be known through revelation or natural</p>

		<p>and Calvin</p>		<p>revealed theology”</p> <p>Which of the comparisons support NT and which support RT?</p> <p>Imagine the points on the left are the starts of paragraphs How would you move from comparison to evaluation?</p> <p>Write ONE of the paragraphs</p>	<p>and explain their meanings.</p> <p>Add additional information on Aquinas and Paley.</p> <p>The unknown God : Paul</p> <p>How is Paul’s visit to Athens used by Calvin to support sensus divinitus ?</p> <p>What conclusion is made about natural and revealed theology ?</p> <p>What does Aquinas say ?</p> <p>Copy the table - use bullet points for each idea.</p>	<p>theology?</p>
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					Ext: complete Activities 1-5	
Lesson 9 Revision		Retrieval of core knowledge.	All from topic	Retrieval grid PLC Mind-map - using page 40 textbook Revision cards for key thinkers.	Specific to individual students-identified from PLC/retrieval grid. Teacher to move around room 1-1 support.	