



Christianity

General Certificate of Education (Ord. Level) Examination

Question Paper & Answers

December 2019

**Christian Education Commission
National Christian Council of Sri Lanka**

Christianity I

Note:

- i. Answer **all** questions.*
- ii. In each of the questions from **1** to **40** pick one of the alternatives (1), (2), (3), (4) which is **correct or most appropriate**.*
- iii. **Mark a cross (x) on the number corresponding to your choice on the answer sheet provided.***
- iv. Further instructions are given on the back of the answer sheet. Follow them carefully.*

- 1) Jesus' birth is considered an important event because it
 - 1) took place as expected.
 - 2) happened in the presence of the people.
 - 3) was a fulfilment of prophecy.
 - 4) took place a long time ago.
- 2) Prophetic utterances and later the angelic message to Mary were about Jesus'
 - 1) greatness.
 - 2) physical features.
 - 3) poverty.
 - 4) status.
- 3) According to the prophets, Jesus changes us through His ministry to
 - 1) serve others while being served by them.
 - 2) serve and not to be served.
 - 3) tell others about the true meaning of service.
 - 4) be conscious of the limitations of our service.
- 4) A feature common to Peter, Thomas and Mathew is that they were
 - 1) fishermen.
 - 2) at the Garden of Gethsemane with Jesus.
 - 3) with Jesus at the transfiguration.
 - 4) apostles of Jesus.
- 5) What was Peter's great declaration?
 - 1) You are the Prophet of God.
 - 2) You are the Christ of God
 - 3) I'm willing to die for you.
 - 4) I will take Your Word to the ends of the earth.
- 6) The parable which shows the danger of overestimating one's self is
 - 1) The Pharisee and the Tax Collector.
 - 2) The Rich Man and Lazarus.
 - 3) The King about to go to war.
 - 4) The Rich Fool.

7) Consider the following statements about the ministry of John the Baptist:

A - "He will faithfully bring forth justice".

B - "I will send My messenger who will prepare the way before Me".

C - "Surely He has borne our infirmities".

D - "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord".

Out of the above statements what are the prophetic utterances of Isaiah and Malachi about John the Baptist?

1) A and B

2) A and C

3) B and C

4) B and D

8) The one who presented Jesus as the fulfilment of the hopes of the Jewish people was

1) John.

2) Peter.

3) John the Baptist.

4) Zechariah.

9) The good news about Jesus was communicated by an angel to

1) Zechariah, Mary and the shepherds.

2) Zechariah, Elizabeth and Joseph.

3) Zechariah, Joseph and Simeon.

4) Zechariah, Simeon and Anna.

10) The important lesson we learn from the event when Jesus was taken to the temple as a child is

1) attending church only with one's parents.

2) attending church in order to give God first place.

3) establishing Christian identity through rituals.

4) for Christians to live with the Sri Lankan identity.

11) From the following, which statements show that the ministry of John the Baptist is important to Christians today?

A – Emphasizing the importance of sharing what we have.

B – Teaching Jesus about his mission.

C – A society can be built by engaging in good deeds.

D – Drawing people to oneself.

1) A and B

2) A and C

3) B and C

4) C and D

12) As a student what challenge does John the Baptist pose to you?

1) To repent.

2) To forgive.

3) To be patient.

4) To love.

- 13) Herod rejected John the Baptist because
- 1) he stated that Herod's laws were too strict.
 - 2) he condemned Herod's unfair misuse of money.
 - 3) he was against Herod's close association with the Roman Empire.
 - 4) he spoke of Herod's wicked ways.
- 14) The cities where Jesus was born and raised respectively:
- 1) Jerusalem and Nazareth.
 - 2) Jerusalem and Canaan.
 - 3) Bethlehem and Canaan.
 - 4) Bethlehem and Nazareth.
- 15) What was the theme of Jesus' first sermon in the Synagogue?
- 1) "The Kingdom of God belongs to Jews".
 - 2) "The Kingdom of God is also open to the Gentiles."
 - 3) "The Kingdom of God is for the chosen".
 - 4) "The Kingdom of God is glorified".
- 16) The signs given to those who came looking for John the Baptist and Jesus were
- 1) a voice crying in the wilderness and the garment made of camel's hair.
 - 2) a child lying in a manger and a star.
 - 3) a voice crying in the wilderness and a child lying in a manger.
 - 4) a child lying in a manger and a host of angels.
- 17) An important example of life that we receive from John the Baptist and Jesus is
- 1) waiting till you receive a special sign from God.
 - 2) to prepare to live a life of hardship.
 - 3) waiting till you receive God's anointing.
 - 4) not reflecting on a life of hardship.
- 18) What is the common statement that both Simeon and Anna made about Jesus?
- 1) The salvation brought by the Messiah.
 - 2) The glory of the people of Israel.
 - 3) The fall of those who do not accept the Messiah.
 - 4) The future sacrifice of Jesus.
- 19) The following are brief statements made by Jesus in his first sermon in the Synagogue.
- A – Preaching the good news to the poor.
B – Blessings received by the rich.
C – Authority to the powerful.
D – Redemption for the oppressed.

Which of the above statement are indicative of the Kingdom of God?

- 1) A and B
- 2) A and C
- 3) A and D
- 4) B and C

- 20) "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets". Jesus said this to
- 1) Simon.
 - 2) James.
 - 3) John.
 - 4) Andrew.
- 21) The lesson we learn from Jesus' calling of the disciples, is that people
- 1) should accept the calling before being called.
 - 2) should appreciate the service and boast about it.
 - 3) should expect to be partners of Jesus' ministry.
 - 4) should present someone for Jesus' ministry.
- 22) By visiting Simon the Pharisee, Mary and Martha and Zacchaeus, the lesson that Jesus teaches us about hospitality is that one should
- 1) visit different people in their homes.
 - 2) form relationships with others regardless of their social status.
 - 3) go uninvited to people's homes.
 - 4) behaving according to custom when entering a home.
- 23) By accepting children and women, Jesus
- 1) emphasized their true worth.
 - 2) elevated them above the rest.
 - 3) gave them unforeseen hope.
 - 4) used them to tell others about Himself.
- 24) The Pharisees and Sadducees met Jesus in order to
- 1) hold secret discussions.
 - 2) get divine guidance for their problems.
 - 3) challenge Him.
 - 4) to explain the truth to Jesus in depth.
- 25) The challenge posed to us by Jesus through the parable of the unforgiving servant is that
- 1) we should always be willing to forgive.
 - 2) we should always plead for forgiveness.
 - 3) we should forgive in order to receive forgiveness.
 - 4) we should not hesitate to forgive our friends.
- 26) "Blessed are the peace makers". In accordance with this saying, in order to establish lasting peace in our society, people should
- 1) be content with being a peaceful citizen.
 - 2) establish justice and fairness.
 - 3) priority should be given to building a society without war.
 - 4) use force when needed in order to bring peace.
- 27) What was Jesus' response to those who boasted and held the Jewish Law in high esteem?
- 1) Looked down upon them in the temple.
 - 2) Rejected them.
 - 3) Pretended that He did not know them.
 - 4) Said that they would be rejected before God.

28) A high priest was appointed from among the

- 1) Pharisees.
- 2) Scribes.
- 3) Sadducees.
- 4) Levites.

29) According to the Sabbath laws, Jesus taught that

- 1) it was important to work strictly according to these laws.
- 2) the law was important because it was from God.
- 3) the law was based on love and compassion for people.
- 4) it was everyone's responsibility to follow the law no matter what.

30) The following are some ideas on the miracles that Jesus performed:

A – Experience God's power through faith in Jesus.

B - Show compassion only to those who were in need of the Kingdom of God.

C – To convince that Satan's power was at work.

D – To show that we need God's power to overcome the storms of life.

From the above, what are the ideas regarding the Kingdom of God?

- 1) A and B
- 2) A and C
- 3) A and D
- 4) B and D

31) A special feature of the expected Messiah was that He would

- 1) be brought up in Nazareth.
- 2) become the King of the Jews.
- 3) suffer death on the cross.
- 4) be the Prince of Peace.

32) Given below are characteristics of a shepherd:

A – Feeding and guiding the sheep.

B – Protects himself from the enemy.

C – Protects the sheep and dedicated his life for the sheep.

D – Makes use of their wool and leads them through rough streams.

Which of the above are found in Jesus as the Good Shepherd?

- 1) A and B
- 2) A and C
- 3) B and C
- 4) B and D

33) "Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleans me from my sin". This prayer was offered by

- 1) Prophet Isaiah.
- 2) Prophet Amos.
- 3) King David.
- 4) Paul the Apostle.

- 34) The attitude of present-day Christians towards poverty in society should be
- 1) to accept poverty as a permanent feature in society.
 - 2) to encourage the poor to happily accept poverty.
 - 3) to donate to the poor to make them happy.
 - 4) to encourage and help the poor to overcome their poverty.
- 35) Two persons who dedicated their lives to work for peace and social welfare in our country in recent times are,
- 1) Rev. Michael Rodrigo and Nelson Mandela.
 - 2) Rev. Chandra Fernando and Rev. Thissa Balasooriya.
 - 3) Rev. Chandra Fernando and Nelson Mandela.
 - 4) Rev. Thissa Balasooriya and Rev. Michael Rodrigo.
- 36) Some actions of the converts who were involved in occult practices earlier in Ephesus are given below:
- A – Added the miracles of Jesus into their list of occult practices.
B – Burnt all books that included occult practices.
C – Sold the books that contained occult practices and offered the money to Paul.
D – Accepted Jesus, gave up occult practices and witnessed to God.
- Which of the above were the actions of the people of Ephesus after Paul's missionary work?
- 1) A and B
 - 2) A and D
 - 3) B and C
 - 4) B and D
- 37) An instance when Jesus showed the need for inner change in order to attain a new life was
- 1) during His conversation with the Samaritan woman.
 - 2) when He responded Nicodemus' question.
 - 3) when He condemned the actions of Simon the Pharisee.
 - 4) when He challenged Martha at her home.
- 38) What cannot be considered a special characteristic given by Prophet Isaiah to identify Jesus as the suffering servant?
- 1) Dying to forgive sins.
 - 2) Interceding on behalf of sinners.
 - 3) One Who bears our sorrow and pain.
 - 4) Being discouraged and disappointed.
- 39) Who freely forgave the offenders in the face of a brutal attack while engaged in Christian mission?
- 1) Rev. Jerad De Silva and Pope John Paul II.
 - 2) Pope John Paul II and Rev. Chandra Fernando.
 - 3) Rev. Jerad De Silva and Rev. Chandra Fernando.
 - 4) Rev. Chandra Fernando and Rev. Thissa Balasooriya.

40) As a member of the Christian family our responsibility towards the society should be to

- 1) look out for other Christian families and care for them.
- 2) work with patience and forgiveness and bring honour to God.
- 3) eagerly spread the Word of God in the society.
- 4) condemn the weaknesses in society and give guidance.

Answer for 1st Paper

Question No	Answer						
1)	3	11)	2	21)	3	31)	4
2)	1	12)	1	22)	2	32)	2
3)	2	13)	4	23)	1	33)	3
4)	4	14)	4	24)	3	34)	4
5)	2	15)	2	25)	3	35)	2
6)	1	16)	3	26)	2	36)	4
7)	4	17)	2	27)	4	37)	2
8)	4	18)	1	28)	3	38)	4
9)	1	19)	3	29)	3	39)	1
10)	2	20)	1	30)	3	40)	2

Christianity II.

- * Answer **five** questions including question one and **four** other questions.
- * The first question carries **20** marks and each of the other questions carry **10** marks.

1.

- i. Name the prophet who prophesied Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as a King on a donkey. What special leadership quality of Jesus is revealed by this act?
 - * Prophet Zachariah.
 - * Humility and servant leadership.
- ii. Write **one** advice and one power given by Jesus to His disciples when He sent them on mission.
 - * Not taking a staff or money, simple existence, going two by two (one of these advices).
Healing the sick, proclaiming the Kingdom of God, suppression of the devil's power (one of these powers).
- iii. What was the main theme of Jesus' mission? Give **one** example of a method He used to present it.
 - * Kingdom of God – Theme.
 - * Parables, miracles, simple Aramaic language, life examples.
- iv. Whom did Jesus refer to using the Parable of the Fig Tree? What important message does it convey to us as citizens of the Kingdom of God?
 - * Jews, those like the Pharisees, who did not work for the Kingdom of God, those who did not bear fruit. Repent and bear fruit for the Kingdom of God.
- v. What is the historical importance of the two Jewish customs given below?
 - a) Circumcision
 - * Abraham's Covenant with the people of Israel and God.
 - b) Dedication of the first-born male child
 - * Freedom from slavery in Egypt.
- vi.
 - a) Who gave leadership to the Council of Jerusalem?
 - b) What privilege did the Gentiles receive from the Council of Jerusalem?
 - * Leadership was given by – Jacob.
 - * The Gentiles were able to participate without the custom of circumcision.

- vii. In what way are the injustices mentioned by Prophet Amos as prevalent in his day, seen in today's society?
- * Amos said in his day, the oppression of the poor in today's society, exploitation of labour, use of counterfeit scales, disregarding the poor.
 - * Taxing the luxurious lives of the rich.
 - * Division by rank.
- viii. Name **two** qualities that we are expected to adapt in our lives as emphasized by "love" in "The Gift of Love" found in 1 Corinthians 13.
- * Patient, kind, not jealous, not selfish Etc.
Two qualities of love.
- ix. Name **one** person who accompanied Paul on his first missionary journey. Mention an important miracle performed by Paul during this journey.
- * Barnabas, John Mark.
 - * Healed a cripple in Lystra, suppressed the power of magician Bar Jesus in Paphos.
- x. Mention **one** important principle (policy) of the Kingdom of God and write the parable Jesus used to illustrate it.
- * Giving an invitation – Parable of the Great Feast.
 - * Searching even if it is lost – the lost sheep, the lost coin, the lost son
 - * (One of the above two principles and the corresponding parable must be mentioned).
2. "The Son of man is the Lord of the Sabbath"
- i. What is the background which prompted Jesus to say the above statement?
 - * When the Pharisees accused the disciples of eating corn on the Sabbath.
 - ii. Briefly state **three** opportunities used by Jesus to show that humanity is more important than the law and customs.
 - * Healing of the man without arms and the hunched woman on the Sabbath.
 - * Touching and healing the lepers.
 - * Forgiveness of sins to the paralyzed patient.
 - * The moment when the sinful woman was presented to be stoned to death.

iii. Following Jesus' example, present **five** actions that we Christians can adopt to bring about social justice and uprightness in our society.

- * Helping someone in need or in trouble, even on Sundays.
- * Praying for the sick.
Eg: Healing of lepers – acknowledging those with AIDS & leprosy.
- * Caring for patients in hospitals.
- * If someone is guilty of doing wrong, guiding that person onto the right path.
- * Rehabilitate a person or friend who is addicted to something like drugs.
- * Attempting to rehabilitate a friend who has been misled by drugs & modern visual media.
- * Good deeds on the Sabbath – helping a victim in or around the church or at home on Sundays, helping irrespective of rank.

3.

i. Write down two special traits that Jesus expects from the citizens of the Kingdom of God.

- * Character Traits - Servant leadership, commitment towards others.

- Acting with proper wisdom.

- Maximum dedication of talents.

- (2 of the above character traits should be written).

ii. Briefly explain Jesus' use of parables to illustrate one of the above-mentioned (i) character traits.

- * Commitment towards others - The Good Samaritan.

- * Acting with proper wisdom – The Dishonest Steward.

- * Maximum dedication of talents – Parable of the 10 coins.
(One of these parables should be written in briefly).

- * Servant leadership - Washing the disciples' feet.

iii. As presented by Jesus through parables, explain **five** characteristics that the citizens of the Kingdom of God should have.

- * Today, society operates on divisions such as class - the Good Samaritan helped by setting aside his time, money and comforts. It is also important to act regardless of race.

- * Christians must act to prevent themselves from falling into the economic, social and political abyss due to the often-unwise actions in society.

- * We Christians should unselfishly use talents such as music, sports, management, etc. for the greater good of society. But today we see ourselves reaching the top.

- * Instead, unite with everyone in a diverse society.

(Give marks for student illustrations and related character traits).

4. The Bible says that children are the gift of God.

- i. What was the status of children in Jewish society during the time of Jesus' earthly ministry?

- * Children did not have proper recognition in the Jewish society in which Jesus lived. Only at age 12 did boys have the opportunity to learn the Constitution. They did not have the right to ask questions or speak. The male child was accepted by the family.

- ii. Give three examples of how Jesus demonstrated the value of children to His followers.

- * When the mothers of Jerusalem brought their children to Jesus, He blessed them.
- * When the disciples questioned Jesus about who is greater in the Kingdom of God, He pointed to a small child and said that it is one who is submissive like a child.

Statement about those who mislead children - it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea

List five types of child abuse in today's society and suggest five actions we Christians should take to prevent such situations and to help victims overcome them.

- * Child abuse in today's society:
 - * Used as domestics in homes.
 - * Victims of sexual assault.
 - * Used for drug trafficking and theft.
 - * Working in quarries.
 - * Because parents work abroad, they are abused by the caregivers.
- * Action to be taken by elders and Christian organizations:
 - Inform officials.
 - Launch awareness programmes for parents and children.
 - Publicize such incidents of abuse via media.
 - Maintain the law by making authorities aware of such people.
 - Be the voice of victims of such abuse.
 - Connect with marginalized children and welcome them at school.

5. “St. Paul is considered a leader who accomplished a special ministry of mission”
- i. Where was the church that commissioned Paul for missionary service located? How did they receive guidance to do so?

- * Paul was commissioned by the Christian Church in Antioch, Syria. They were guided by – prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

- ii. Present with examples, **three** special leadership qualities displayed by Paul.

- * Special qualities of leadership - joint leadership – Barnabas, Luke, John Mark working with proper wisdom – at Athens.

- * Honoured God – Lystra.

- * Stood up for justice, praised God in the midst of persecution – Philippian prison.

- * Moved forward without being discouraged in the midst of persecution - The moment he was thrown out of the Synagogue.

- * Stoned and chased away.

- * Faced various challenges - Suppression of the magician at Paphos.

Challenging black magic in Ephesus.

- iii. If you are given a position of leadership in school, explain how you hope to follow the leadership qualities mentioned above in (ii).

- * Proper wisdom - Understand the children and teachers in their school and work accordingly.

- * Stand up for justice - Stand up against false accusations.

Give God the glory He deserves – Realize and thank God that it is not by our strength but with His help that we are able to overcome challenges.

- * Just as Paul courageously returned to the cities from which he was thrown out and served in those places - Repeatedly work for the truth and strive to reduce setbacks in the family and at school.

- * Joint leadership – As a leader, learn to together with other schools and fellow classmates.

- * Overcoming the dominance and lack of fairness of leadership seen in society today and work towards adapting Paul's qualities with proper wisdom.

6.

- i. Write **two** important standards seen in the early church.

- * The great standards of the early Christian church - Acting with united brotherly love, Proclaiming the Word of God, keeping everything in common, providing relief to those in need, praying daily.

ii. Write **three** instances where the early church faced challenges and worked towards justice and social welfare.

- * By keeping everything in common, they were able to focus on those who were in need.
- * Understood the needs of others by conducting door-to-door meetings.
- * Appointed 7 deacons / theologians and engaged in relief work.
- * Found proper solutions and reached an agreement in relation to other nations.

iii. Explain briefly **five** ways in which the Christian Church of today can promote the values of the early church.

- * Following the example of worship life - Daily morning and evening prayers and Bible study, praise God with church members and engage in collective worship and breaking of bread.
- * According to the mission of Dharmadana - Launch of the Gospel Proclaiming Programme, living an exemplary life as a Christian child, praying for the sick, conducting Sunday school, engage in acts of compassion in hospitals, conduct programmes on signs to increase belief and faith in the Church.
- * Expansion of welfare activities - Organize and volunteer for the needs of the congregation or around the church, support to meet the needs of slum dwellers irrespective of race or religion, acting on behalf of others by sharing possessions as much as possible.

7. Select **two** of the following topics and write short notes basing your answers on biblical teachings.

- i. Christian Unity.

Writing brief outlines - Biblical teaching has a foundation.

- * Christian Unity - Unity in Diversity, Jesus is the Head and we are bound as different members. As Jesus' High Priestly Prayer unites Him with God so also there is a need for all believers to connect, acceptance of baptism as the sign of unity, Organizations that have been established for Christian Unity- National Christian Council, World Christian Organizations, Young Christian Organization etc.

ii. Ministry in the midst of challenges.

Writing brief outlines - Biblical teaching has a foundation.

Ministry in the midst of challenges -Examples of ancient prophets serving in the midst of challenges, Jesus overcame the Challenges and trials He faced from the beginning of His ministry, He worked in spite of the challenges brought on by the Pharisees and the Sadducees, sacrifice on the cross, Paul overcame the challenges during his missionary work through the power of God, those who have faced challenges in recent times

- Characters given in the book.

iii. The Christian attitude towards suffering.

Writing brief outlines - Biblical teaching has a foundation

- * The Christian attitude towards suffering- From the earliest teachings in the Bible, it has pointed out suffering and that it can be overcome by the power of God. The ancient prophets endured suffering when proclaiming the Word of God. The prophet Isaiah presents Jesus as the servant of suffering. It is confirmed that suffering is necessary for the Kingdom of God. Do not escape from suffering, but it is going through it and reaching the triumph of hope. It is a victory given by Jesus

Christ, who suffered death upon the cross. The concept of accepting suffering with joy is presented.

iv. Servant leadership

Writing brief outlines - Biblical teaching has a foundation

- * Servant Leadership - The shepherd symbolizes Jesus' leadership of the sheep as a good shepherd, even sacrificing His life. The meaning given to the leadership of Jesus: humility - washed the disciples' feet, accepted the rejected, was a friend of sinners, entered Jerusalem on a donkey even though He is King, He took the acts of violence upon Himself, tolerated others, did not oppress them by force, lifted the burden of followers.
