

Answers Focusing on Experience

What are the ideas, concepts, morals, ethics from the SRE curriculum that you experienced that have remained with you and been useful to you in life?

Probably um, um, seeing people for who they are, not what they are [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

I don't remember any of it. [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

I have absolutely no idea. I remember once being told by a woman that if I didn't go to church regularly then I would go to hell. [Brit, 20, F 06]

Probably the um, the messages on compassion and kindness [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

Treat people the way you'd like to be treated. Treat them nicely and they'll be nice back. Other than that, no. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

Having the chance to ask question freely and being answered truthfully. This was also a very important time for me to learn about Christianity since I had no real opportunity at home to ask either of my parents about what is meant to be a Christian. SRE gave me some confidence in choosing to be religious at all. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

I don't believe any of it was useful. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

I don't really remember much about it at all. [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Um, the nature of God and the personality of Jesus and that they taught me right from wrong [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

Yeah, like, yeah, I don't think there has been any. All I remember is watching a movie [Evan, 20, M, 07]

From school time? Probably all that's really stuck with me is all the stories and the main themes, like the Easter story and the Christmas story, and some of the parables. But they're just stories that have stayed with me [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

Kindness, patience, um, can't really, that's all about it. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

None that I can remember particular to SRE. It was a long time ago and from memory the teacher's were all from my Sunday School at local church. [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Yes. Particular quotes from the Bible. I was going to say parables but... [Gina, 44, F, 05]

I didn't pay attention in SRE [Holly, 48, F, 06]

I don't remember what they taught me. My mum used to teach it, but I don't remember it. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

To care for those suffering and in need; to serve God and in caring for those in need, God is being served; to uphold the 10 Commandments; to care for creation; to keep a wonder for creation. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

Wow, um, that's a hard one because, well, I lived in small country towns and the scripture that I got wasn't really about scripture, it was about Adam and

Eve and Noah, and they were just stories that didn't profoundly influence me.
[Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

Ok, probably the most, um, God loves you and will always be there for you, and will always forgive you. That's what I got from it, and you can't get to heaven without him. And I think also learning the prayers. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Um, I think that there can be nice people in the world and some don't necessarily have motivations. They don't have, they're doing a selfless act. They're doing it for the love of it and not reward. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

No idea, can't remember [Kira, 39, F, 07]

There's hmm.. A little bit [Keith, 37, M, 07]

Really it just comes back to the belief of God and Jesus Christ and that I can be forgiven for my sins if I ask for it. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

Um, my goodness... I cannot remember that. I mean we were taught, and I can always remember being given books to colour in, but I can't remember... I remember colouring in a picture of Jesus, and I think I've still got it at home. Oh, I remember the class playing up on the teacher a lot and she was over run by the class. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Knowing the Lord's Prayer as a memory verse. [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

Um, ... the idea that Christ and the belief in Christ is important in every aspect of life [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

I guess the key thing I learnt in SRE as a child was God loves me and reveals himself in the bible and sent Jesus to die for the forgiveness of my sins. That was really the main thing. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

SRE was a lot of fun. I liked reading the Bible and learning the stories.
[Michael, 30, M, 01]

Tell a story or two to illustrate how and why that has been the case.

No. It just happened [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

N/A [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

N/A [Brit, 20, F 06]

Bloody hell. When people have been in need or hurting, instead of being cruel or not showing signs of empathy showing them kindness and compassion can help them come through whatever situation had caused them that kind of hurt. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

I'm not sure if they're's any I can think of [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

As a child I never had a lot or any real opportunity to ask my parents about God, and was brushed aside whenever I asked if God was real. It was also a real struggle to be able to get my parents to sign my consent form to allow me to go to scripture as a child in year 6. I can remember sitting in the room and a lovely lady would come in once a week and tell us about the stories in the bible through the use of puppets. This was a great way to get everyone's attention and she would always give us a chance to ask as many questions as we liked at the end of the Scripture. This meant a lot to me as I got to ask the questions I never got to ask or was afraid to ask my parents. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

N/A [Christian, 29, M, 05]

There was a teacher that did random events based on the bible, like ask us questions or crosswords [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Um, yeah I remember asking the SRE teacher about hell and they weren't allowed to talk about hell but I didn't know that until much later and she said the hell was the opposite of heaven and heaven was where God is and hell is where God is not. [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

N/A [Evan, 20, M, 07]

As I got older as, I, it's kind of cliché, it's like going on a journey and as I wanted to know more just having those stories showed me that I didn't really know and those stories from school showed that there was more in the Bible I didn't really know about. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

It's mainly just what the Scripture teacher radiates or sends across. They were always a bit different, spiritual. Kindness, patience, um, can't really, that's all about it. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

N/A [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Having a breakdown that caused me to think about God and read His word. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

N/A [Holly, 48, F, 06]

N/A [Irene, 50, F, 05]

SRE lesson in Yr 1 on The Good Samaritan struck me with the relevance of compassion, and a dislike for the apathy of those who ignored the plight of another. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

N/A [Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

My mum did Scripture and when my mum did the Scripture of the Class I was in they were like heaven on earth and meant everything to me. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

When I was little I was always amazed at these people who came into the school and helped out without getting paid to help the children, and they were nice and loved to care. It reminds me that life isn't always about shits and giggles. They taught me a lot of things: I learnt how to draw stick figures and whenever I draw people it's always the stick figures they showed me how to draw in kindergarten. I'd always tried to draw block figures but the lady showed me how to draw a stick figure and I can remember being so impressed by that. Oh and she always wore sandals and I'd never seen people wear sandals till this lady. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

N/A [Kira, 39, F, 07]

Ph, nothing from my early stuff, but when my home church minister came into my school and taught us about the symbols do satanic symbols and stuff that sort of stuck with me. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

No I don't actually. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

N/A [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Useful in many stressful and other situations as a point of reminder of who God is and how I should cede control/worries to Him. [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

Hmmm, no. [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

Well, coming from a non Christian family it encouraged my faith in God and um, becoming a Christian through that time came to be my, ah, identity I suppose and set my life's direction quite apart from my family. If you'd like a story, I Suppose I assumed as a child that everybody believed in God, like just as the sun is in the sky that God was a real part of the world and it took me a long time to realise that God wasn't in my parents lives and that school scripture offered me an alternate reality that I wanted to be a part of. I guess the key thin I learnt in are as a child was God loves me and revels himself in the bible and sent Jesus to die for the forgiveness of my sins. That was really the main thing. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

I can't remember SRE only had it in primary school... And year 7-9 [Michael, 30, M, 01]

Are there any suggestions you have as to material it would be beneficial to include in the SRE curriculum – given your own experience – as likely to be helpful later in life?’

Make it more relevant, old mate Noah, what’s that mean to me now. I remember hearing those stories in Scripture but they were never brought back to me or meaning, so what does this mean to me? Nothing, so what was the point. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

They need to stop with all the light and fluffy and need to give those children the tools to deal with sickness and grief that in the real world suck. [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

No, not really to be honest. I think there’s only so much you can teach somebody before they have to experience it. They should stop the threats and fear though. I think the problem though is that whatever they teach them, is I wonder how relevant it is to them and relate to them. [Brit, 20, F 06]

Maybe some messages that weren’t of kindness or compassion. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

The sick, the poor, there’s less of that there these days, I was told by a psychologist that empathy had halved in the last 15yrs and that is very dangerous. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

I believe SRE should be more of a thing when they’re older and not at the younger age. It should be more of a high school, or yr 5/6 as the little kids only do colouring in. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

Using puppets in the younger school was a perfect way to get the children involved in scripture time. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

They could probably make up different activities, like get the kids to do a play or something like read a passage and get the children to act out what they thought was happening [Erin, 24, F, 06]

I would teach our history and our culture in a dynamic way don't make it a boring thing but I would teach them Anglican culture, whatever that actually is [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

I don't think so. I can't think of any. [Evan, 20, M, 07]

A broader base of Bible stories and how they connect, and maybe relating, tying the history and reasoning behind the stories and explaining some of the problems there are today. I think if SRE maybe went through some of the propaganda and the history of what happened in those ages, where people went and how it influences events in the world around us, it would at least make it more relevant for a start. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

Um, more of a sense of community and what it stands for and try and bring God, like try and push God in a community role, rather than just teach God as an image of magnificence and bring God down to our world/level. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

No [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

I think it would be giving kids particular quotes from the Bible to memorise every lesson. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

I only ever had my father teach me so I didn't pay attention to him. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

Gods armour. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

CEP is too basic in its activities for most primary classes, so I feel a review of it would further the interest of the older primary child in SRE if it included facets of God in Creation (eg the solar system and the planet), and social justice matters that are topical eg homelessness, drug abuse, food needs. These ideas could help deepen ethics and morals likely to be helpful in life. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

Two things in scripture, 1: which never happened to me, make it, make then, the stories from scripture relate to them, to the kids and their lives so it isn't alien and so, and in doing that encouraging them to have a personal relationship in Jesus. [Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

Yeah, I think the fluffy lambs and Jesus aren't useful in life. We need to equip the students with prayers and stories of suffering so they have something to turn to when something bad happens in life. You need to have your first aid kit, it has to be relevant to actual life. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

I think it's important for ongoing and consistent exposure to religious study. Not just a one off it has to be ongoing. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

I'm not a hundred percent sure on that one, no. [Kira, 39, F, 07]

Yep, um, what would it be? I would teach them, um, about the hats we wear and the superficialness of their daily lives such as when they put on a face or a hat for their friend and when they go home they don't have that face they have a different one for mum and dad. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

I guess it would be that life isn't always easy just because you believe. That's pretty much it. Not just the stories you have in there but real life stories that you can relate to. . [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

If only I'd been taught about the bible. I was never taught it even though I was seeking it. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

The gospel. It may be the only opportunity that the kids get to hear it. [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

I think the personal relationship that is possible with Christ is important and that as a part of that prayer is important. [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

... I think the effectiveness of are is the personal relationship and it's not the curriculum we teach but the relationships we form that are appealing, and I think that's the main thing it's about who we are. In regards the curriculum, I think teaching the core message of the bible as we do is important but in a society ignorant of Christian truth and critical of Christians I think the curriculum should include apologetic topics so that students can develop a robust faith that can withstand the criticisms of family and friends. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

Nope. [Michael, 30, M, 01]

Was there was a resonance between SRE and your experiences of the human condition?

No. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

I don't think so. [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

No. [Brit, 20, F 06]

Yes [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

I don't really remember. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

N/A [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

No. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

I don't think at scripture it did. No I don't think it did at all [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Yes [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

Yea, I don't think I've ever seen that. [Evan, 20, M, 07]

Not particularly no. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

No, no nothing [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

I'm not sure what "human condition" [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

I'd probably say yes, there were definitely experiences that made me look back at SRE and to remember and apply to daily living. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

No [Holly, 48, F, 06]

Yes [Irene, 50, F, 05]

Yes [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

No, my SRE upbringing was just stories like Adam and Eve. [Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

See SRE to me means what my mum did and what I did when my kids were little. Obviously as a teacher I had people come in to do SRE of varying qualities (I shouldn't say that) and if we didn't have anyone on the class I'd teach the kids as I felt it was important. That would be the God time. The other thing, which I shouldn't say as it's a bit critical, an Anglican priest who taught it to me when in high school didn't think he should be there and my feelings as to how he behaved, my experience with him put me off from going to church as a teenager. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Urrr, read the question again. Um, very little I got more from the human experience outside of that but I guess it could give a starting point. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

No [Kira, 39, F, 07]

No [Keith, 37, M, 07]

Oh, I'm trying to remember now... yes, it taught you to think and to question [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

No. I don't remember sorry. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Nope [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

No [Ola, 31, F, 03]

No [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

Yeah very much so. It probably answered questions I hadn't thought to ask yet. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

I don't think so. [Michael, 30, M, 01]

What aspect of SRE resonated?

N/A. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

N/A [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

N/A [Brit, 20, F 06]

It would be the fundamentals of ethics and morals [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

N/A [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

N/A [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

N/A [Christian, 29, M, 05]

N/A [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Um understanding what humans are and what our end will be, like where we're going [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

N/A [Evan, 20, M, 07]

N/A [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

N/A [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

N/A [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Funny enough, probably parables: stories of Jesus. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

I didn't pay attention because I heard it all every Sunday at Church ... EVERY SINGLE SUNDAY [Holly, 48, F, 06]

The whole, you know, God created Adam and Eve, you know that's the beginning of the universe, God created everything. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

That God was most relevant with humans being the ones to enact God's requirements as per Genesis when humans were given the responsibility to be guardians of what God had created. To then have lessons where humans needed to be responsible for others and nature when in need came through various SRE lessons. That humans always had a responsibility as having the ability to reason in ways differing from other life was always self-evident to me. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

N/A [Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

N/A [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

N/A [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

N/A [Kira, 39, F, 07]

N/A [Keith, 37, M, 07]

The reason for us being here [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

N/A [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Too young to remember (only SRE in primary school, attended compulsory Christianity classes during high school – an Anglican high school in Sydney)
[Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

N/A [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

SRE presented me with the Christian worldview of a God who made me, loved me, forgave me and had a purpose for my life. I think they're probably the main things. To elaborate, the Christianity I learnt about in SRE made me aware of my mistakes and failings and my talents and abilities. Hmm. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

N/A [Michael, 30, M, 01]

What moment/s did it resonate with?

N/A. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

N/A [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

N/A [Brit, 20, F 06]

Could I just say it has always resonated with me? I've never found a moment where it hasn't resonated. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

N/A [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

N/A [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

N/A [Christian, 29, M, 05]

N/A [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Ar, since like... When I was a kid and it formed the understanding of what I believe now [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

N/A [Evan, 20, M, 07]

N/A [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

N/A [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

N/A [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Growing up, I can't think of that one. At the crossroads. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

It was somewhat a source of angst because my father taught it and people teased me about this. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

Where did we come from. I suppose just everyday you have self doubts, questions, you deal with children, husbands, you look at what you've done and what you've been through and without that resonance you wouldn't be able to cope. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, The story of Moses and his abandonment, the Exodus, the story of Joseph and his abandonment but his ultimate victory because he kept his faith and was not violent. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

N/A [Henry, 50, M, 06]

N/A [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

N/A [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

N/A [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

N/A [Kira, 39, F, 07]

N/A [Keith, 37, M, 07]

Probably only resonated late in my 20's after my life experiences. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

N/A [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

N/A [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

N/A [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

I guess over a number of years there were moments where I realised that becoming a Christian would take me down a different path to my family, for example when my parents fired a nanny who was looking after us because she was a Christian and played Christian music and videos and it was at that point I realised my parents weren't Christians. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

N/A [Michael, 30, M, 01]

Answers Focusing on Views/opinions/attitudes

What is your attitude to SRE being taught in schools today?

Waste of time. Wait, reword: an unfortunate waste of time [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

Today I think it's a waste of time [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

Well, I wonder, a) how good a job it actually has as it hasn't done a very good job for me. Is it compulsory? [Brit, 20, F 06]

I think it's necessary. I think it's important to have the learning. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

I'm not sure. I'm not sure what it is now to when I was in school, I think its good, I think it's a good mechanism to stop people living for themselves, that there's not a punishment for them for not being greedy. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

I think children who want to be taught Religious Education should be given the chance regardless if it is a public or private (religious) school. Every child should have the opportunity to choose whether he/she would like to know more about religion. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

I believe it should be a life choice not a forced choice of religion being put upon anyone. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

It's probably a bit of a waste of time [Erin, 24, F, 06]

I think it's a good thing. I think not only is it a positive moral grounding for children which is objective rather than relativistic ethics classes but it gives a grounding in the understanding and thought of western culture without which we will fall as a people [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

It's good in some aspects but I don't think it covers it broadly enough [Evan, 20, M, 07]

I still think it's very important and I think it should still happen just to teach even the basics of right and wrong. Just morally if we take that away who will teach right and wrong. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

I've got no problem with it. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

I am not familiar with the current curriculum, but this is an important part of education and sometimes the only access the young will be exposed to the truth. I also believe there is a fundamental obligation for Public Schools in NSW to allow religious education which dates back to the donation of Church of England lands for public schools when the Roman Catholic church decided to form their own school system. [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

I think it's great for the kids and is a necessity. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

Um, I'd like to see it continue but I think its got a lot of competition with ethics now. And I don't think just teaching them Scripture in schools is going to bring them to church now. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

Definitely should be. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

Very relevant. Very important [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

That it should be [Henry, 50, M, 06]

I believe that all schools should teach SRE and that includes the Muslim schools so that they know our way of life and beliefs [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

I think its essential. I know a lot of priests don't but I think its essential: lots of kids wont hear about God otherwise. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Um, it should be there, and it should be encouraged. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

Very important [Kira, 39, F, 07]

I think it's a good thing. It teaches kids something, that's if it's taught and not just there's the pictures over there there's the crayons go and colour it in. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

So religious ed. I believe it's a hard one. For myself I want my kids to be brought up and exposed to that, but I also think it should be each family's choice. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

Scripture? Oh its great, I think it should be made compulsory for all kids to go. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

It should continue [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

I don't really care [Ola, 31, F, 03]

I think it is a good idea as it gives students an opportunity to learn about religion that they may not otherwise have. [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

I see it as a valuable opportunity to share the gospel message with children who may not otherwise hear it. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

Valuable part of school, it allows development and exploration of religion. [Michael, 30, M, 01]

What are your thoughts on the lessons learnt through SRE? Specifically, do you believe they are limited to childhood learning, or form ongoing learning throughout life?

They're limited to childhood learning because I never felt it was relevant to where I was going. They were just stories that happened long ago and I was just left sitting there trying to make sense of why they had meaning and meant anything in my life as I tried to live. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

No, I think they are limited to childhood learning [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

I don't think it has been relevant. [Brit, 20, F 06]

I believe they can be both for they help the child to learn but at the same time give them questions to learn that may take some time to answer. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

Ongoing learning throughout life. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

Lessons from my scripture classes I often carried through my life and still remember to this day. In high school we also got a chance to do girls and boys classes in order to ask the questions we would otherwise be afraid to ask in front of the boys or vice versa. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

They only form ongoing learning if you choose to pursue it as you get older [Christian, 29, M, 05]

They probably could form ongoing learning [Erin, 24, F, 06]

I'd say they form the ground for the possibility of ongoing understanding [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

They're definitely limited. [Evan, 20, M, 07]

I think what I was taught was primarily was given the easy to digest children's stories and was not given to digest throughout your life. Like the Easter and Christmas stories and some of the parables that were easy to explain. There are some areas of the Bible that I have no knowledge about at all, so if I was given a Bible I would have no idea about which books the stories are in at all. The lessons focused on only a very small bit of the Bible. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

Probably the first one. But only because for many children that's all the sense of religion that they get. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

SRE should be teaching from the Bible and forming the understanding for life. [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

They're the foundations of life, so when they reach their teens and begin exploring life they have the building blocks to fall back on and give back an answer [Gina, 44, F, 05]

Given my limited attention to the lessons I think they are limited to childhood learning more than anything. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

I think they could form ongoing throughout life if they did them right and engaged with them. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

The lessons learnt can sometimes be affected by the SRE teacher; but on the whole, the lessons can help young people to recognise the alternate world of a relationship with God through Christ available to the believer, as compared to the secular world with all its greed and problems that belongs predominantly to the secular world and offers spiritually only a deep and empty void. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

Well they should be ongoing learning throughout life, from school to uni, just all throughout life. [Henry, 50, M, 06]

They are the foundation to understanding religion and how to live in harmony and to help your fellow man [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

Well I think you see you need to look behind the story and look at the lessons they are trying to teach. They might be childhood stories but they have a life long purpose. I think the most important ones for me are the miracles: the loaves and fishes: if Jesus could do miracles then he can heal me now. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Well it should be ongoing, but then I only got it in primary school and would have benefited if it had been ongoing and gone through high school. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

Childhood learning [Kira, 39, F, 07]

Mm, well considering I can't really remember any of it, there's nothing that's taught that they can incorporate into their lives. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

Fairly limited sometimes. Once again it often doesn't relate to life experiences they are the Bible stories and often when you are young you cant relate to them. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

I think it's ongoing learning. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

It's likely more important that the individual teaching the curriculum is a godly Christian. A poor model of Christ will never be able to impart anything positive even if the curriculum is good. [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

I think they're limited to childhood learning. [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

I, I do think SRE currently um, I do know a lot of people grow out of the faith they had in scripture, there is something, I guess I do believe SRE should be a starting point and pitched at a child's level of understanding, and I think it is too much to ask of it to equip one for life. One of the significant aspects of SRE in my life is that it connected me to a local parish which then continued, which was a place where I could continue in my faith through youth group and church attendance. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

I think they form a basis for lifelong learning. They teach tolerance, forgiveness, understanding of a higher being. [Michael, 30, M, 01]

In what ways do you see community as relevant through your experiences with SRE?

Well, it's got to be continued the community's got to continue to teach what it was taught in the first place. When I'm being taught it in school, are people living it out in their real lives. When I walk to the corner store do I see people living out what they told me in school? Does Christianity continue after the half hour of SRE each week in school? If I don't see that lived out in the community, was SRE just a waste of time like a pack of seeds on a windowsill. [Anthony, 28, M, 07]

Well, they need to be able to, I think the relevance comes from the community all having the same... the children need to see what they learn in SRE as being lived in the community. [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

I haven't been taught anything. [Brit, 20, F, 06]

Without a community there is nothing. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

Community..., um I don't know. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

The children who grow up with SRE in their lives often have a good impact on the community as they get older if they stick by what they have learnt. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

Well without a community a church won't make money to better help the wider community. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

Don't you always stick together as a community? [Erin, 24, F, 06]

Um, SRE came through the local Anglican Church in my school so we knew that there was a group of people who cared for us and prayed for us because they told us that [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

I, I don't really. [Evan, 20, M, 07]

I think community's relevant but I don't think SRE really helps that. What I was taught in SRE was basic, just factual stories with nothing that ties in with communities. Communities still grow and you can have community without SRE lessons. I think community is about having more time and slowing down the world rather than teaching more stories to them. There are still people out there who have Christian values but nowadays they can't do things because of the modern world. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

I couldn't say, because we didn't go to church so at the time I didn't find it relevant at all. [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

My memory is that it was respected by students and considered a privilege. [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Because that's the world we live in. Being able to be a part of that community in a healthy way [Gina, 44, F, 05]

I don't but my experience is different to others because my father, the priest, was the teacher. I don't but my experience is different to others because my father, the priest, was the teacher. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

Community through school scripture... I. Just trying to think of the words for what I want to say.. Um I think community is important through school scripture, then the children take the stories home and share them with their parents. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

Just as the followers of Christ were bounded by living as community, community is important in SRE. When people live as community, it is easier to

uphold each other in faith and prayer, and sustain each other when the secular community pushes its own wants onto society. SRE encouraged me to believe it important to further SRE lessons by being part of a local Sunday school, which placed me within a community of believers who would be encouraging in a faith journey (although that wasn't actually verbalized). [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

Well community is essential for a healthy upbringing [Henry, 50, M, 06]

Community is relevant in the way that it behaves to all those living inside its boundaries. Without Religious standards we would have anarchy and despotism [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

Well, I think the kids who are at school are the community. So by reaching the schools kids you're reaching their families and the local community. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Um, well it's, community is key, you have growth and then ongoing support. It's important to foster community to keep them engaged. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

I don't know, put me on the spot! [Kira, 39, F, 07]

Community, community. Is important if you like your community. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

Hmmm, my church community was very important to me when I was going up and it reiterated to me what I was learning. So, community's important. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

I think community, it is, I learn from the Christian community. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Unsure of relation [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

Um church community is very important. [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

Well, ideally all Christian teaching and learning should occur in a community context but the opportunity of our ability to do SRE in schools is with one teacher in a classroom. Maybe one way of growing community is to invite the children into our communities and show them an outpouring of our relationships. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

N/A [Michael, 30, M, 01]

How should Christians live their lives?

With no comparison, not to be narcissistic but living life with no comparison.

[Anthony, 28, M, 07]

They, its, it's about thinking about others and not just yourself. It's about living a life of compassion and forgiveness. [Ashley, 27, F, 06]

Loving, and sharing and forgiving. I would assume something along the lines of through the example set by Jesus. [Brit, 20, F 06]

Well, that is for each to find on their own, however, I would say it should be one filled with caring for others in need. [Bryan, 20, M, 06]

With compassion, in a non judgmental charitable way I'd say. [Crystal, 23, F, 07]

As a Christian I try to live my life through what I think is right and if I get stuck I turn to god for help but also God isn't there to always tell me right from wrong I find that God helps me make informed decisions and then if they turn out to be wrong he will always forgive me and help me try again. [Danielle, 20, F, 06]

How? There is many answers to that. Hey should live their lives according to scripture: helping their neighbour. [Christian, 29, M, 05]

Well they shouldn't based on other peoples expectations, like if others say you have to believe in this god they can be free to believe in god whatever [Erin, 24, F, 06]

In the love and obedience of well to Jesus [Dylan, 23, M, 03]

Cleanly and morally [Evan, 20, M, 07]

They should live it following Jesus' example. [Floyd, 44, M, 06]

By loving God and by following God's word and by loving one another [Fiona, 42, F, 06]

We should lead by example, shining as a light to Christ. We should be loving and caring; comfortable and learned enough to guide others to Christ [Gregory, 45, M, 05]

Um, with love, respect, helping others. [Gina, 44, F, 05]

Modeling Christ's behaviors towards others. [Holly, 48, F, 06]

They should help people? They should abide by the Ten Commandments, they should live their lives the best way that they can. I don't believe in pushing my religion down people's faces but I don't shy away from sharing what I believe. [Irene, 50, F, 05]

In community, prayerfully, upholding compassion and social justice concerns for the underdog or when sectors are being unfairly targeted when contrary to Scripture; as effective students of Christ. [Jennifer, 50, F, 04]

Um, Christians should live their lives by using the talents God has given them with humility and love, and from the perspective of what would Jesus do. [Henry, 50, M, 06]

By treating everyone equal and helping those that are in need [Isaac, 49, M, 99]

The two commandments, they should be living that everyday, love God and love one another, simple. And also the Ten Commandments again, if you don't run around killing people and coveting your neighbor you live a good life. I think most importantly we should emulate Jesus. I think What would Jesus do? Would he be bitching about people at church or including the prostitutes and lepers? So should we. [Lisa, 49, F, 03]

Um, they should use a lot of what is in the bible as reference, but not strict like some people do, and if you're happy and do right by people you can't go wrong. [Jacob, 32, M, 04]

Um, reading the bible, be nice, be kind, be courteous, look out for other people. [Kira, 39, F, 07]

Carefully, I'm yeah, should Christians live their lives? In the way that's right for them. [Keith, 37, M, 07]

The way God intended. Ten Commandments. [Melissa, 39, F, 03]

Honest, um, just believe in God and do what, just do the right thing. [Natasha, 39, F, 07]

Live as though you've been bought for Christ. In an effort to bring glory to God and fight temptation through the work of the Holy Spirit. [Lloyd, 31, M, 03]

They should not break the law, they should respect other people, they should attempt to be Christ-like in all they do and say. [Ola, 31, F, 03]

Don't Know [Peggy, 39, F, 07]

Um, a Christian should seek to love and obey God as revealed in the Bible, valuing what he values and living out his character of love. Yeah. I mean that's a summary. [Quinn, 34, F, 01]

No particular set of rules in my eyes. Some are very religious and will follow/interpret the Bible literally. Others will incorporate it into their daily lives but let their own experiences guide their decisions. As long as faith is present I think God will be happy. [Michael, 30, M, 01]