

Topic: Why do some people believe God exists?

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Core Knowledge - Must know	Good to know	
Theist - believes in God. Agnostic - cannot say if God exists or not. Atheist - believes there is no god. Some people may believe or not believe in God because of their home/family background or due to a religious experience.	Some of the names of God and metaphors in the Bible God as Father, Spirit, Son, eternal, almighty, holy, shepherd, rock, fortress, light. Many people say they have experienced a sense of 'the presence of God' or had prayer answered; many would argue that the universe, the Earth and life are extraordinary and are best explained as the result of an all-powerful Creator. Many people who do not believe in God point to the existence of terrible suffering as a key reason. Some argue that there is no need to use a Creator to explain the existence of the universe and life.	
The Genesis account of creation There are many stories in the Bible that teach Christians about God and the way God wants them to live. The Bible begins with the story of Creation. This is in the first section of the Bible, the part of the Bible that tells Christians about God and His people before Jesus was born and how the world was created.	The Genesis account of creation can be found in the Old Testament. Some Christians read it literally and other Christians read it as expressing some truths about God and human beings without reading it literally. Christians who are also scientists - Jennifer Wiseman, John Polkinghorne, Denis Alexander.	

Vocabulary

Religious experience - when someone feels they have had a direct or personal experience of God. **Belief** - belief is a firm thought that something is true, often based on revelation. Belief is usually a part of belonging to a religion.