

5 Starter Facts About Christian Science

- 1. Christian Science, officially the Church of Christ, Scientist, emphasizes physical healing through recognition of the nonexistence of matter and illness through prayer. Christian Science was discovered and founded in the 1870's by Mary Baker Eddy. There are ~400,000 adherents in the United States.
- 2. Because spiritual healing of disease is a core tenant of Christian Science, many members refuse secular medical help for disease.
- 3. Christian Science regard Jesus's healing and victory over death as proof that the limitations of the mortality can be overcome as one gains "the mind of Christ," that is, an understanding of man's true spiritual status. Orthodox Christianity associates this with heaven, but Christian Science considers it a demonstrable fact.
- 4. The texts of Christian Science are the *Christian Bible* and *Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures*, and followers consider them collectively to be the Pastor of all congregations.
- 5. Full-time healing ministry members are called Christian Science practitioners and are listed in a directory published monthly in their major religious periodical, *The Christian Science Journal*.

Learn more at:

https://www.christianscience.com/what-is-christian-science
http://www.beliefnet.com/faiths/2001/06/what-christian-scientists-believe.aspx

These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they will encourage you to explore this tradition more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. It is our firm belief that in understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity

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