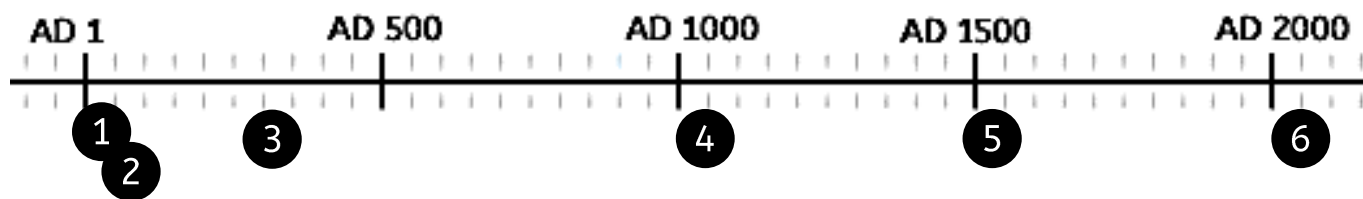


How have people and events in history shaped Christian diversity?



1 • Jesus gave his followers the **Great Commission** to baptise people and teach people of all nations to obey God.

2 • Paul's missionary journeys, spreading the message of early Christianity.

3 • The conversion of **Emperor Constantine** (AD 270-337) to Christianity helped Christianity spread through the Roman Empire.

• AD 325 - Emperor Constantine called a council at **Nicaea** to discuss the wording of the **Nicene Creed**, including what it said about **Trinity**.

• AD 1054 - **The Great Schism** - separation of churches (caused by geography, language, leadership and theology).

4 • The Pope (Leo IX) led the Catholic Church in the west and the Patriarch led the Eastern Orthodox Church in the east.

• **Catholicism** dominated most of Europe, including Britain.

5 • By the 16th century, the Catholic Church in Europe had become corrupt. Some people wanted to reform the Catholic Church (known as the **Reformation**). There were **Protestant** movements.

• **Martin Luther** (AD 1483-1546) a German Theologian who influenced the Reformation, disagreed with corruption and translated the Bible into German.

• King **Henry VIII** wanted a divorce and had to request permission from the Catholic Pope, who said no.

• AD 1534 - Henry VIII created the **Church of England** with the monarch as the Head. This is called **Anglicanism**.

6 • There is huge **diversity** within Christianity in the Britain today, these groups are called **denominations** and have different views about power, expression of faith and theology.

• Locally, we might see evidence of Christian diversity in our community.

