



### Christian prayer and worship introduction – teachers' notes

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#### Overview:

Explain to your class where, how and why Christians pray, with a focus on prayer and worship at Westminster Abbey. This KS1 introduction lesson, designed to last for one hour, considers the different ways Christians pray and places they choose to pray. Pupils are then given the opportunity to create their own prayer hand.

SLIDE 3: Introduce the learning objective and success criteria

- To be able to explain what praying is
- To be able to say why people pray
- To be able to respond thoughtfully to the ways in which people pray
- To be able to explain where people may go to pray in Westminster Abbey

SLIDE 4: Ask a question: Who helps us? Ask pupils to think of the person they turn to when things go wrong for them and discuss with a partner. Make a class list. Ask a second question: How do they help? Discuss again.

SLIDE 5: For Christians, prayer is like having a conversation with God.

SLIDE 6: Ask pupils if they ever have to say these things?

SLIDE 7: Ask pupils to discuss this question in pairs, make a list. Elicit that this can be anywhere. You will need this idea for the next activity.

SLIDE 8: Use the pictures from the resource sheet, stick them up around the classroom and give pupils a few minutes to go and have a look. They may wish to make notes. Discuss the questions once pupils return to their seats/carpet spaces. The answers will be revealed on the next slide.

SLIDE 9: Reveal answers and look for any similarities with the pupils' ideas. Can they think of any other places to pray? This is not an exhaustive list.

SLIDE 10: Christians can say prayers anywhere but many go to church to worship God and pray there. Do you know where this is?

SLIDE 11: This is Westminster Abbey.

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# Westminster Abbey

## Learning



Play the film (slide 12) after saying "Westminster Abbey has been a place of worship.....people can worship and pray to God." And then introduce where people can pray in the Abbey after watching the film.

SLIDE 12: Play the film after saying "Westminster Abbey has been a place of worship.....people can worship and pray to God." (slide 11) And then introduce where people can pray in the Abbey (slide 11) after watching the film.

SLIDE 13: People can pray in different ways.

SLIDE 14: At Westminster Abbey, prayers are said and sung. There are prayer books to follow or you can simply sit in silence and reflect on the beauty of the Abbey.

SLIDE 15: Please note that pupils do not have to pray. They can if they want to but if not, they are just going to think about the above. You could light a candle whilst you play music to create a nice atmosphere. If time, ask pupils to share their thoughts at the end.

SLIDE 16: Activity: Make a prayer/thinking hand.

SLIDE 17: quick quiz

1. Why do people pray?
2. What three words beginning with T,S and P do people use to help them say prayers?
3. Where can you pray in Westminster Abbey?
4. Say two ways how could you pray?