

## KS2 Unit 4, Lesson 6: Prayer

**Context:** Previously pupils will have learnt that to Christians, prayer means talking to God, and will have learned about some Christian practices of prayer

**Overview:**

- Children will understand the importance of prayer to Christians.
- Children will understand that Christians can pray in a variety of places and ways, including privately, with other groups of Christians, or within Christian worship in church
- Children will consider what Christians might pray for

**Essential core:** Christians believe that 'God is love' (1 John 4.8) - compassionate, all knowing (omniscient), everywhere at once (Omnipresent), all powerful (almighty), pure, set apart (holy).

**Resources:** candle, music, Pictures of Christians praying (attached), Lord's prayer, 2 videos on RE:quest website <http://request.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/How-do-you-pray-v2.mp4>  
<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/08/15/christianity-unpacked-prayer>

**Vocabulary:** prayer, worship, the Lord's prayer

### Introduction

Ask children to think about this question:

If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

Allow time to think, then share in pairs (if they want to, they can keep their question private if they prefer), then share with class if they feel comfortable.

Watch a film clip of Christians talking about what prayer means to them at:

<http://request.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/How-do-you-pray-v2.mp4>

Ask for any reactions to or questions about what was said.

Spread pictures of Christians praying around the room. Ask children to go around the room, visiting each picture, and to talk about the following questions as they go:

For each picture, talk about:

- Where it is happening?
- Who is praying?
- Are there any special objects or dress?
- What do you think they might be saying?

Children could record their responses to the last question by writing down in a large speech bubble placed next to each picture.

When children have had a chance to look at each picture, ask them which pictures surprised them. Were all the pictures in the same place? What did people wear or what special objects were there? Out of this discussion, children can learn that Christians pray anywhere, including in church, and sometimes they might wear special clothes (e.g. a priest praying before communion) or have special objects (e.g. an icon in an orthodox church) but at other times they might not. Use the comments about what they might be saying as a basis for discussion.

**Plenary:**

Allow children a choice of activities to choose from. Light a candle and play some gentle music. The activities they could choose from could be:

- Sit still, quietly, think of someone or something that is important to you
- Say the Lord's prayer to yourself
- Say a prayer quietly in your head
- Write a prayer on a piece of paper for the prayer box
- Listen to the music and watch the candle.

**Differentiation:** The RE:quest website has a full unit of lessons and activities about prayer, so to further extend children's learning about Christian prayer, use these resources:

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/08/15/christianity-unpacked-prayer>