

Expressing

Year: 3 Term: 1

Key question: Why do people pray?

- Discover and think about the meanings of the words of key prayers in three religions - the Muslim First Surah of the Qur'an, the Christian Lord's Prayer and the Hindu Gayatri Mantra.
- Learn that Hindus, Muslims and Christians pray in many different ways, both using set forms of words and more spontaneously, and the three religions believe similar and different ideas about how God hears prayers.
- Consider the idea that some people consider themselves 'spiritual but not religious' and some of them may like to pray in their own way.
- Consider the idea that some non-religious people may believe it is more use to be kind or to help someone than to pray for them. Some non-religious people use practices like listing things they are thankful for at the end of the day.
- Find out about some symbols used in prayers in different religions, explore connections between prayer in three different religions and explore the impact of prayer: Does it enable people to feel calm, hopeful, inspired, close to God or challenged? How?
- Discuss and consider the impact of praying in some stories from inside the religions and make links between beliefs and practice of prayer in different religions.
- Weigh up the value and impact of these key ideas: are there benefits in recalling things you are grateful for, things you are sorry about, ways in which you would like to be better, or for things to be better for other people? What benefits might there be? Do pupils ever do these things?

Vocabulary

Surah	surah, also spelled sura, Arabic sūrah, is a chapter in the sacred scripture of Islam, the Qur'ān.
Gayatri Mantra	The Gayatri Mantra, also known as Savitri Mantra, is a sacred chant in the Hindu religion.
gratitude	Gratitude is taking a moment to reflect on how lucky you are when something good happens, whether it's small or big. When you feel thankful for things in your life.
spiritual	The belief and care of the human spirit or soul.
intercession	Praying for someone else
confession	To say sorry for the wrong (sin) in their lives and to experience God's healing through forgiveness.
shrine	A shrine is a place that people visit and treat with respect because it is connected with a person or with people that they want to remember.

Key Questions:

- What is prayer? Is prayer helpful? How could we answer this question?
- What happens in Islamic prayer? What does this show us about Muslim beliefs and ways of life?
- How and why do Christians like to pray?
- How do Hindus pray and worship at home and in the Mandir?
- What is similar and different in the words of three prayers (Muslim, Christian, Hindu)
- Reflection: What more can we discover? Does reflection matter to me?
- Prayer and me: why do some people pray every day, but others not at all?
- What have we learned from Muslims, Hindus + Christians about prayer, symbols and worship?



Mandir



Hindu shrine