The Knowledge

Supporting the National Curriculum



Knowing More

Remembering More

Learning More

Prayer



Key Beliefs

- •Prayer is a two way communication with God.
- •All faiths believe that prayer is the way to strengthen their faith and to help them lead better lives.
- •Places of worship are essential for collective worship but individual prayer can be performed anywhere.
- •All faiths believe that God answers prayers in his own way and time.

FAITH and PRAYER both are invisible, but they make impossible things possible.!!!

Faith Prayer

Each faith has traditions about prayer. This may involve symbols, body positions and special clothing but all faiths stress that prayer is an individual choice.





Key Facts

ACTS is the idea that there are four forms of prayer: Adoration (praise), Confession (admitting sins and asking for forgiveness), Thanksgiving and Supplication (asking for help).

Muslim prayer (salah) can be performed five times a day. Men and women pray separately. There are rituals of positions and a prayer mat is used. Clothing must be modest. Facing Makkah is essential. Washing beforehand is called wudu. Hindu prayer is performed at a shrine at home or in the mandir. Shrines have symbolic artefacts to help with prayer.

Sikh prayer requires modesty with heads covered and shoes removed. Prayer is not set at any time apart from ritual set prayers in the morning or in the gurdwara. Meditation is a form of prayer requiring opening minds and listening.

Christian prayer has no set form but often involves bowing heads, kneeling and clasping hands. There are set prayers including The Lord's Prayer.

Jewish Prayer is usually performed standing or seated. Worshippers at Reformed synagogues may wear kippahs and prayer shawls (tallit) but it is essential in an Orthodox synagogue. There are set prayers like the Amidah.

Key Vocabulary

Good Friday	The day that Jesus died on the cross .
The Last Supper	The final meal that Jesus ate with his disciples before he died.
disciples	Jesus' close friends and followers.
Judas	One of Jesus' disciples.
sacrifice	Jesus giving himself up to be crucified to save humankind.
cross	The large wooden cross that Jesus was crucified on.
Pontius Pilate	The Roman governor.
betray	Being disloyal to someone.

Key Vocabulary	
Mary Magdalene	A friend of Jesus.
resurrection	The rising of Christ from the dead.
prayer	A way of talking to God.
crucifixion	Nailing someone to a cross to die.
tomb	A large space for burying a body.

Test Yourself

What is prayer?

How and why do Christians pray?

How and might different Christians celebrate Holy Communion?

How might Muslims pray?

What is similar and different in Christian, Muslim and Sikh prayer?

Why do some people pray everyday, but others not at all?

What does prayer look like?



