

Exploring Perspectives: A Personal Reflection on Prayer

Learning objective: To understand that prayer is a significant practice for many people, and to reflect on how it can express gratitude, hope, or concern.

In this activity, you will act as a researcher exploring the purpose of prayer. Use the boxes below to record your understanding of how prayer functions for different individuals and communities. Think carefully about why people might choose to pray and how it influences their actions.

Word bank: gratitude · reflection · connection · meditation · community · devotion · hope · faith · intercession

1. Defining Prayer: In your own words, explain what prayer is and why it is a meaningful practice for many people around the world. (2 marks)

2. The Purpose of Thanks: Explain why someone might choose to use prayer as a way to express gratitude. Justify your answer with an example. (3 marks)

3. Comparing Experiences: Compare and contrast how prayer might look different in a quiet, private setting versus a busy, communal setting. (3 marks)

4. The Impact of Reflection: Explain why taking time to reflect or pray might help a person make positive choices in their daily life. (2 marks)

5. Hypothetical Scenario: What might happen if a community stopped using prayer or reflection to share their hopes and concerns? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)

6. Justification: Do you think prayer always requires words? Justify your answer by describing how silent reflection or actions could be considered a form of prayer. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are writing a 'Poem of Reflection' for the BookFlik characters. Write a short poem or a thoughtful paragraph that expresses a wish for the world, focusing on themes of kindness and hope, without using specific religious language. Explain why you chose these specific words.