

Prayer

We are learning this week to understand how Christians can show gratitude through prayer.

Look at photo of hands together.

What do they think of when they see this? Discuss your answers.



Prayer

Watch the video together.

Then ask them to think of three things that they have learned about prayer.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02q88sl>

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, when they asked him how they should pray.

Most Christians know the prayer by heart in their own language, and it is used today by every Christian tradition, though there are sometimes minor variations in the wording.

It has a place in every Anglican act of worship, and forms a pattern for prayer for Christians:

We bless God and pray for our world, our communities and our lives to be shaped by God's will;

We pray for daily needs to be met,

For forgiveness for wrongdoings, strength to resist temptation and protection from danger.

The Lord's Prayer



Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory
For ever and ever
Amen

What Does it Mean?

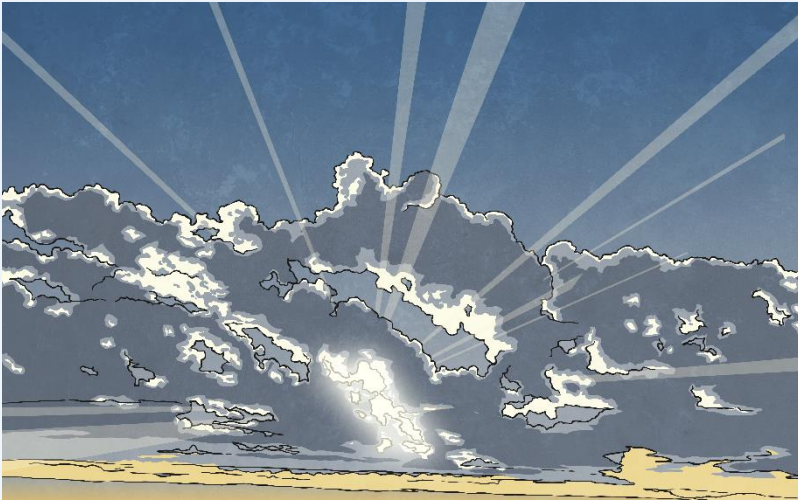
The Lord's Prayer is a Christian prayer which Jesus taught his disciples to say.

Each line has its own meaning.



Our Father, who art in heaven

The prayer begins by making it clear who people are praying to.
Christians believe that God is the Father of everyone.



‘Art’ is an old way of saying ‘is’, so
we are saying:
‘Our Father who is in heaven’.
One God, in heaven.

You can think of heaven as being with God.

Hallowed be thy name



God's name is honoured and respected as holy. 'Thy' is an old way of saying 'your', so we are saying:

"God, your name is holy."

Thy kingdom come

God's Kingdom will come to every Christian and God is their King. That they live by His commandments and let him 'rule' in their hearts.



Thy will be done

Christians believe that they should not always do just what they want to do, but live according to God's will.

That His will is done, and not ours. Living in peace and love.



On earth as it is in heaven

Christians believe that heaven is a beautiful, loving, caring and perfect place, and that life on earth would be wonderful if it could be more like that in daily life.



Give us this day our daily bread

Shows the need for food and nourishment of the body, but also the need to 'feed' our minds and spirits.

Christians recognise the need for spiritual growth and 'feed' their spirit through prayer and reading the Bible. Trusting God to give them what they need.



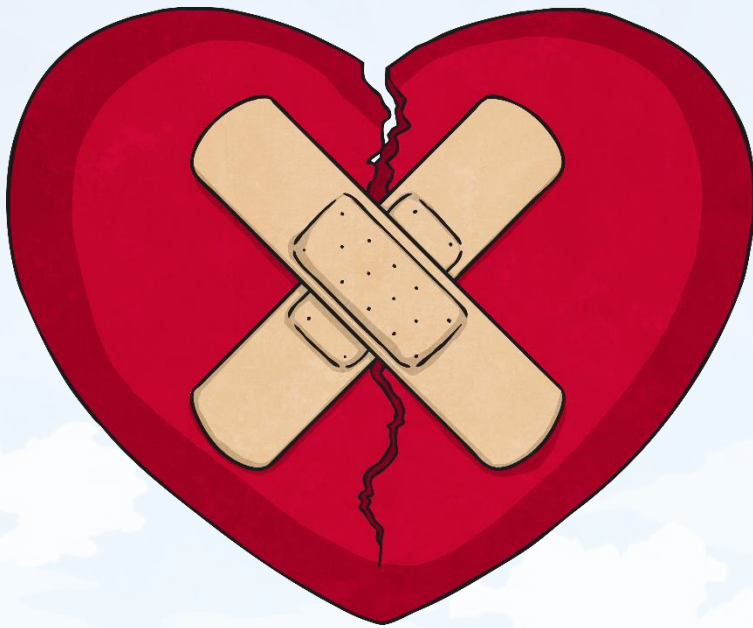
And forgive us our trespasses



The word 'trespasses' means 'sins' or 'wrongful thoughts and actions'. Christians ask for forgiveness from God in prayer when they have done wrong.

As we forgive those whose trespass against us

Not only can Christians ask God for forgiveness, they must also learn to forgive people who have upset or hurt them.



People cannot forget forgiveness without letting go of anger, grudges and unpleasant thoughts about others.

And lead us not into temptation

When tempted, no one should say, 'God is tempting me.' For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone.



But deliver us from evil

Evil is anything that leads a person away from God, it can get in the way of a good relationship with God and others. Christians ask God for protection from evil.



For thine is the kingdom

This is referring to God's kingdom again: For **yours** is the kingdom. It means that the kingdom of heaven is God's and that he is King of spiritual life.



The power and the glory

Praising God as the most important being. Christians worship him for all he is and all that they have received from him.



For ever and ever

This means for eternity. That God's kingdom will always be God's forever!



Amen

Amen means 'So be it'. It is a form of blessing at the end of the prayer.



Prayer

Children to write their own short prayer.

What would they write in their prayer?

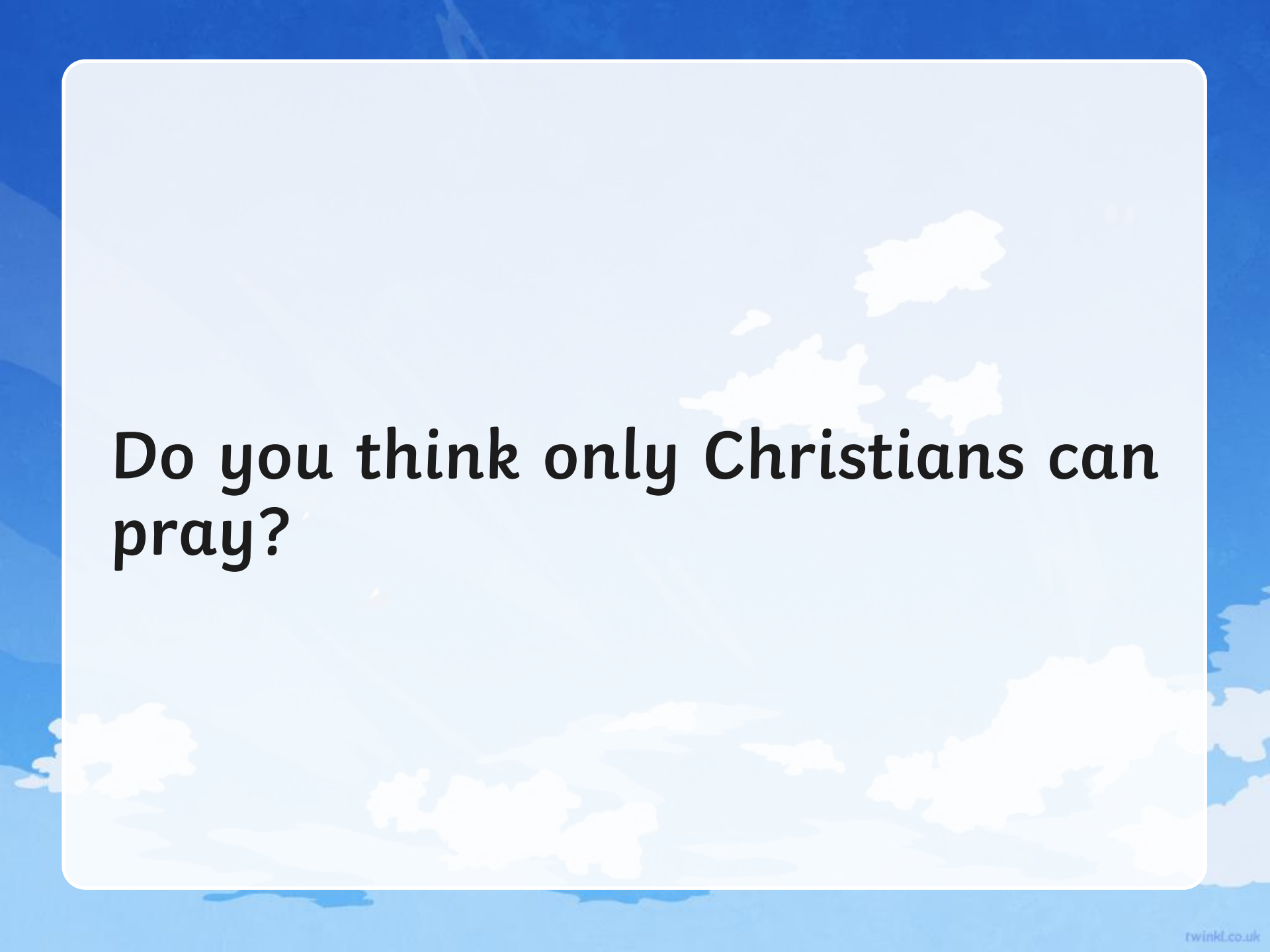
Ask the children to think about the words that they could say to show their gratitude.

Maybe they would want to say a prayer to their Mum/Dad/Auntie/teacher/Headteacher if they choose to.

A Child's Prayer

Thank You God
for all that grows,
Thank You for
the sky's rainbows,
Thank You for
the stars that shine,
Thank You for
these friends of mine,
Thank You for
the moon and sun,
Thank You God
for all You've done!





Do you think only Christians can pray?