

KS2 Unit 4, Lesson 5: The Church

Context: Previously pupils will have looked at how Christians live out their lives, the messages of The Beatitudes, the symbolism and practice of Communion and prayer.

In this lesson we are asking pupils to explore the similarities and differences of churches. They will go on to see how different churches do the same things but may do some things differently.

Overview:

- Recall some of the similarities and differences between two different kinds of Christian church (church and chapel; old and modern).
- Understand that they may do some things in different ways but share many common practices and beliefs.
- Identify how each might do the same things in different ways (baptism, communion, reading and explaining The Bible, worship, prayer)

Essential core: To understand that there are similarities and differences between different kinds of Christian church, but that Christians share many common practices and beliefs.

Resources: Visit two different kinds of church.

<http://request.org.uk/life/church/the-church/> <http://request.org.uk/teachers/teaching-resources/life-resources/2015/01/12/life-in-a-methodist-church>

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/11/20/the-church>

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/being-christian/2014/09/18/church>

INTRODUCTION:

Use fingers to show the children's rhyme that says, 'Here is the church, here is the steeple, look inside and there are all the people.'

From pupils own experiences what do they think a church is like? In groups collect ideas and share as whole class, record ideas that form the general idea of how the pupils perceive church. Have pupils thought about the idea that the church is made up of people not the buildings?

Share film clip which refers back to this rhyme - the people are what makes the body of the church.

<http://request.org.uk/life/church/the-church>

What do the pupils know about different types of church? Share their ideas and discuss. Use images/artefacts to support.

VISIT:

If possible, arrange to visit two different types of church. Look for similarities and differences. Record through sketches, notes. If possible, have local Christians on hand to talk to pupils about how services are conducted within each of the churches. If unable to arrange visits show two different types of church as below.

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/teaching-resources/life-resources/2015/01/12/life-in-a-methodist-church>

This shows contrasting churches with clear explanations with questions throughout.

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/2014/11/20/the-church>

INDIVIDUAL TASK:

Create own grid with similarities and differences as headings, explain some of the differences and similarities.

PLENARY:

show film clip and discuss what it means to belong to a church and discuss how this gives opportunities for Christians to live out their faith every day.

<http://request.org.uk/teachers/christianity-unpacked/being-christian/2014/09/18/church>