

# CRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*A Competency Based Curriculum Approach*

Book 1

Notes



## Simplified Low Secondary Curriculum Guide

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# **Theme: MAN’S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**

## **CHAPTER I**

### **Topic: WORSHIP**

#### **Sub topic 1:1**

### **THE MEANING OF WORSHIP**

#### **Qn. What is worship?**

Worship is used to mean having a strong feeling of respect and admiration for God.

Or It’s the act of showing great honor and homage to God.

Or Worship may also mean going for or attending a religious ceremony.

#### **Note;**

- ✓ Christians give more respect and honor to God and other divine things.
- ✓ The things they do to show respect and honor to God is what we term as worship.
- ✓ Worship can be referred to someone important, for example “His Worship the Lord mayor”.
- ✓ But in this section, worship is used to mean having a strong feeling of respect and admiration for God or a god.
- ✓ It can also mean to go for a religious ceremony.
- ✓ Worship is also aimed at showing commitment, love, faith, trust and devotion to God.

### **Why do we worship God?**

#### **(Activity 1;2 fountain)**

#### **Qn. Generate reasons why we worship god**

- We worship God for his work of creation for example the stars, planets etc.
- We worship God for creating us in his image.
- We worship God because we were created to worship him.
- We worship God because He is faithful. (Isaiah 30;18)
- We worship God because He provides for us.
- We worship God because He loves us.
- We worship God because of His unfailing love for us (psalms 13;5)
- We worship God because He has good plans for us. (Jeremiah 29;110)
- We worship God because He is our protector and provider.
- We worship God because He is powerful over any creature on earth.

## Forms of worship today

### (activity 1;3 fountain)

#### On. Identify the form of worship you know

- Singing;
- Praying.
- Offering to God.
- Playing musical instruments in praising and worshiping God.
- Mediation.
- Fellowshiping.
- Fasting.
- Practicing charity services/ helping the needy.
- Reading the bible scriptures.
- Going for pilgrimages for example those who participate in going to celebrate the Uganda Martyrs.

#### **Note;**

- ✓ Different religious groups have got many ways of expressing commitment, trust and love to God.
- ✓ This depends on the religious groups or denominations one belongs to. For example, the Catholics, Orthodox, Protestants, Pentecostals, Seventh day Adventists etc.
- ✓ Worship is then conducted by trained officials like Reverends, priests, pastors, bishops etc.

### (activity 1;4 fountain)

#### On. Using internet, dictionary, resource books, find the meanings of the forms of worship you have discussed above.

- Prayer

Is simply communicating to God. This depends on one's intension of communicating to God. It can be for thanks, help, repentance, inquiring, forgiveness etc.

- Fasting.

Is essentially giving up food or something else like sex etc. for a period of time in order to focus your thoughts to God.

- Mediation.

Is a form of worship of deliberately focusing on specific thoughts about God or his world and reflecting on their meaning.

- Singing.

Is simply communicating to God through playing hypes and singing words of praise to God glorifying him.

- Offertory.

This is giving God a present or gift of thanks for his good deeds for example food for the better harvests.

- Fellowship.

This is bothering together by the Christians to give praise and worship to God and also share the word of God.

- Reading scriptures.

This is taking part in reading the bible and also understanding the bible better. i.e. through bible studies.

- Charity services.

This is the generous actions of giving or donations to help the needy, helpless and many more others.

- Paying pilgrimage visits.

This is when Christians move to Christian memorial places to pray in memory for their good deeds and also take part in prayers and submissions to God.

## **The purposes of worship**

### **(Activity 1;5 fountain)**

#### **Qn. Mention the benefits the worshipers get through worship from God.**

- Worship increases a worshiper's understanding of God.
- Worship helps to build a worshiper's confidence in God.
- Worship also increases one's faith in God.
- God answers our prayers when we do worship.
- Worship makes us bold in God's presence.
- Christians get revelations, knowledge and understanding through worship.
- One becomes close to God when worshipping.
- We become peaceful when we worship God.
- Worship also gives assurance in our lives that is to say the present and our future.
- We get blessings and gifts from God. For example, talents are revealed, a gift of love, peace and faith.

## **Worshipping God in different circumstances**

### **(Activity 1;6 fountain)**

**Qn. Mention any examples of good and difficult times that people go through and do worship God for his kindness and guidance.**

This include;

- Loss of loved ones.
- Failing in examinations.
- Over whelming debts.
- Miscarriages.
- Weddings.
- Winning court cases.
- Passing examinations for the good side of it.
- Winning elections for the politicians.
- Celebrating prosperity and success like in jobs, child birth, good harvests etc.
- War times.
- Times of sickness and many more others.
- Times of divorce for the married couples.
- Times of ordination at most for the religious leaders.

**Qn. Suggest ways in which people should worship God.**

- Through singing and dancing to glorify god's name.
- Giving thanks in form of offertory to God.
- Testifying for the goodness of God to our lives.
- Celebrating important events like Easter days, charismas days etc.
- Praying regularly for God's presence and guidance.
- Taking part in repentance whenever on wrong.
- Taking part in fasting.
- Taking part in sessions like intercessions i.e. interceding for the sick, country etc.
- Also having time reflecting to God.
- Through mediations.

## **Forms of worship in the bible**

### **(Activity 1;8 fountain)**

**Qn. Read the bible and identify the forms of worship in them. Give the importance of the forms of worship you have identified**

<b><i>Bible text</i></b>	<b><i>The form of worship</i></b>	<b><i>Importance of the form of worship</i></b>
Daniel 9;3-6	Praying and fasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ It brings god's intervention.</li><li>➤ It brings one close to God.</li></ul>

1 Chronicles 13;8	Singing and dancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It's a form of giving thanks to God.</li> <li>➤ It pleases the worshipers and God.</li> </ul>
Psalms 33;1-2	Singing and playing musical instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It's a form of praising god for His goodness and love.</li> <li>➤ It's enjoyable and refreshing.</li> </ul>
Psalms 47;1-9	Singing, clapping, praising God.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It brings intimacy between the worshippers and God.</li> </ul>
Psalms 100;1-5	Singing and praising.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It brings God's attention.</li> <li>➤ It pleases God.</li> </ul>
John 4;24	Worshiping god in spirit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ You get to know God.</li> <li>➤ Get revelation.</li> </ul>
1 Thessalonians 5;17	Praying.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Brings victory, protection, guidance and confidence.</li> </ul>
Hebrews 13;15	Praising, confessing God as lord.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It pleases God and causes him to dress us.</li> </ul>
Job 1;18-22	Praying and confessing to God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It pleases God whenever we pray to him in times of trouble.</li> </ul>

**Note;**

We come to learn that worship was part of people in the biblical times.

They worshiped God in different forms depending on their situations. Those in happy moments would sing, dance and offer to God thanksgiving sacrifices.

Those in sorrow would cry and fast and repent for God to intervene.

## **Worship in Exodus 20;1-17**

### **(Activity 1;10 fountain)**

#### **Qn. What things should Christians do in order to worship God well.**

- Christians are called upon to worship God alone and have other Gods attached.
- Christians are also to obey and keep God's commandments holy.
- Christians are to remember the sabbath day and keep it holy by attending church fellowships so as to praise God.
- Christians are encouraged to honor the elderly and also the young to honor their parents.
- Christians are to have faith and trust in God as the creator of the universe and also giving him honor and praise.

#### **Qn. What things should Christian avoid to do in order to worship God well.**

- Christians are argued not to worship other gods other than one God the creator.
- Christians are argued not to bow to any images.
- Christians are argued not to misuse the name of God for false promises.
- Christians are also argued not to murder.

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- Christians are argued not to tell lies.
- Christians are also argued not to commit adultery.
- Christians are argued not to steal.
- Christians are argued not to give false testimonies against their neighbors.
- Christians are also not to convert other people's property.

**Note;**

The ten commandments in *Exodus 20;1-17* were given by God to the children of Israel and they were to guide them on how to deal well with him and other fellow humans.

Obedience to the commandments would show respect and honor to God.

Even us today are encouraged to follow the ten commandments as stated by God.

**Other moments of worship in the Bible.**

**(Activity 1;11 fountain)**

***On. In groups, learners read the scriptures in the bible and write short notes on them.***

<i>Bible texts</i>	<i>Note</i>
1 king 3;1-4	➤ King Solomon offered hundreds of burnt offering sacrifices to the lord as a sign of love and form of worship.
Exodus 15;1-21	➤ The children of Israel and Moses sang praises to the Lord after He delivered them from the Egyptians. Mariam also sang for the Lord.
Genesis 15;7-10	➤ Abraham brought animals to sacrifice them for God.
Genesis 4;3-4	➤ Cain and Abel brought offerings to God.
1 Samuel 7;3-6	➤ Samuel told the people of Israel to dedicate themselves to worship God alone. They fasted and gave offerings to God and God forgave their sins.
Genesis 17;11-14	➤ God commanded Abraham and his descendants to carry out circumcision as a sign of entering into a covenant with Him. This was a form of worship.
2 Samuel 6;5	➤ David and all the Israelites were dancing and singing with all their might to God, playing harps, lyres, drums and rattles when the covenant box returned to Jerusalem.
Acts 4;31-32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the holy spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.</li> <li>➤ All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.</li> </ul>

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**Note;**

In the bible, worship took a big part in the lives of people. It's the main reason why God created human.

In the new testament, Jesus obeyed and took part in worship and also apostles.

- Worship brings people close to God.
- Worship makes people receive answers for their needs.
- Through worship people receive strength, faith, trust, hope and encouragement to move on even amongst challenges.
- Helps people to become God fearing and to rely on Gods guidance.
- Worshipers display a good character and example to the rest of the people.
- Helps people inherit heaven after the present life.
- It's a lesson to all Christians not to abandon the habit of worshipping God.

## Sub topic 1:2

# FORMS OF WORSHIP IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

These forms of worship include the following.

- ✓ Worship through prayer.
- ✓ Worship through singing.
- ✓ Worship through charity.
- ✓ Worship through offertory.
- ✓ Worship through fasting.
- ✓ Worship through reading bible and mediation.

## Worship through prayer

### Qn. *What is prayer?*

Prayer is a way of communicating to God.

Or Prayer is a sincere request for help or show of thanks to God.

Or Prayer can also mean a religious service at which people gather in order to pray together.

### **Note;**

- ✓ Human communicate to God in prayer. i.e. People pray in the morning, afternoon and evening before they sleep.
- ✓ They pray in their homes, at school and even in their communities.

## Reasons why people pray

### (Activity 1;13 fountain)

### Qn. *Identify the reasons why people pray to God.*

- People pray so as to know God more.
- People pray to express their gratitude to God.
- Some people pray to succeed or pass examinations. i.e. for the sake of students.
- People pray in times of need like job seeking.
- People pray to get anointed.
- People pray to get good health, victory over enemies etc.
- People also pray so as to be relieved from bad times like poverty, conflicts/wars etc.
- People pray for peace and guidance.
- People pray for prosperity.
- People also pray so as to achieve a gift of long life.
- People pray for provision of blessings, protection and God's mercy.

**Note;**

Out of God's goodness and mercy, He answers our prayers.

That is why others come back to Him to give thanks for the good He does to our life.

People should always pray and not faint because there was help. God answers prayers.

**(Activity 1;14 fountain)**

**Read Psalms 23;1-6**

***Psalms 23;1-6***

1. *A psalm of David. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.*
2. *He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me besides quite waters,*
3. *He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*
4. *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*
5. *You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*
6. *Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**Qn. What kind of prayer is Psalms 23?**

***Psalms 23;***

- Is a thanks giving prayer.
- It talks about the goodness of God.
- It's a prayer of protection and victory over enemies.
- It also talks of God's guidance being with us.
- Also talks about God being the provider of ever thing we need.
- It's a prayer of God's blessings for provision.

**Note;**

According to the Psalms,

- ✓ People always pray to God for life, provisions like food, good health, money and blessings.
- ✓ They also pray to God for protection, shelter, good facilities, victory over their enemies etc.

And out of God's goodness and mercy, He answers them. That's why others come back to him to give thanks.

## **Prayer at Home**

Do you pray at home? Do you pray alone or you pray with other members of your family?

Do you have specific times for prayer? So, praying alone is good but praying as a family is better.

### **Importance of family prayers**

#### **(Activity 1;15 fountain)**

#### **Qn. Give reasons why praying together as a family is important.**

- Family prayers create a bond between family members.
- Brings back broken relationships with other family members.
- Promotes peace wherever there is a conflict in the family.
- Brings happiness in the family because of the unity promoted in prayer.
- Promotes guidance and counselling among family members.
- Prayerful families experience God's powers of protection and provision whenever need is demanded.
- Prayers promote good health and fulfillment of other basic needs like shelter completion, school fees for the school going children etc.
- Creates equality among family members i.e. each one does his or her responsibilities when required and no complains.
- Family prayers also tend to make faith a priority in families hence promoting peace, trust and unity among the family members.
- Prayers also open hearts to forgiveness in families.
- Family prayers also teach children to seek God fast and have respect by walking in Gods ways.

#### **Qn. Identify the reasons why some families do not pray.**

- Some family members have busy working schedules.
- Some family members don't stay together.
- Others are not committed to God.
- Differences in religions. For example, catholic and born again staying together in one family.
- Poor family backgrounds and up bringing of the family heads by their former families who ignored family prayers also makes the trend to continue.
- Conflicts and confusion in certain religions like the protestants and the reformists.
- Some family members also don't know how to talk or pray to God since both come from different backgrounds.
- Conflicts and misunderstanding between the family members themselves.
- Too much believes in traditional beliefs by some families hence believing that there is no God.
- Most families feel they are not close to God so their prayers are ineffective.

**On. Share the consequences of neglecting prayers as a family**

- Family prayers neglect can result into lack of guidance and counselling in families.
- Leads to ungodly behaviour like adultery etc.
- Can result into misunderstanding between the family members like family wrangles.
- Leads to family breakups due to misunderstanding.
- Leads to upbringing of bad moral children full of disrespect.
- Family faces a lot of problems and difficulties with out answers like famine, poverty, sickness etc.
- Leads to disrespect amongst the family members themselves starting from the parents to the children.
- Leads to polygamous marriages due to lack of trust and faith in one another in most families.
- Derails away God's presence hence the family faces a lot of difficulties like poor decision makings, high poverty levels etc.

**Ways of praying as an expression of respect to God**

**(Activity 1;17 fountain)**

**On. Mention the ways people pray as an expression of respect to God.**

Prayer can be done in different styles and postures. God answers all of them depending on the faith of the one praying. He answers every prayer. Christians pray in a variety of ways to show honour and respect to God and they do this in the following ways;

- Silent praying.
- Jumping while praying.
- Kneeling down.
- Shouting loudly.
- Crying as an expression of respect.
- Banging the walls.
- Praying while opening eyes.
- Praying while closing eyes.
- Praying while rising up and down.

**Types of prayers.**

**(Activity 1;18, 1;19 fountain)**

**Types of prayer**

This include;

- ✓ Congregational prayers.
- ✓ Private prayers.

**NOTE;**

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**I am lucky Jonathan**

**MY THE LORD BLESS ALL OF US IN OUR HUSTLES.**

**AMEN.**

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