



Unit 1.6 Who is Muslim and how do they live (part 1)?

Enquiry Questions

- What do people think about God?
- What do Muslims think about God?
- What difference does worshipping God make to Muslims?

What will I know by the end of the unit?

Some people believe that God is very important in their lives even though they cannot see him. Muslims believe that the world would not function without God.

Being a Muslim is not about race or skin colour, but about beliefs, ways of living and communities. There are thousands of Muslims living in Cornwall.

The Muslim word for God in Arabic is Allah. Muslims never draw Allah. They say all pictures of Allah are wrong because Allah is too great for pictures.

Muslims have 99 names for God, because God is all things to them. The names are found in the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an. They are often called the 99 Beautiful Names of Allah. Each name describes something different about what Allah is like. Some of the names are: forgiver, light, the source of peace, the creator, the guardian, the generous, the truth.

Muslims try to make all parts of their lives an act of worship (ibadah) to Allah, since he is their creator. The Five Pillars of Islam are examples of ibadah or worship and are belief, prayer, charity, fasting and pilgrimage.

The Shahadah (belief) is a statement that Muslims declare to show what they believe: 'There is no god except Allah; Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.'

Some Muslims pray five times a day – dawn, midday, late afternoon, sunset, before midnight. They face Makkah (Mecca) when they pray. The words 'God is most great. There is no god but Allah,' are also part of what Muslims pray each time.

Key Vocabulary

Islam, Muslim, belief, Allah, Qur'an, worship, ibadah, pillar of Islam, belief, Shahadah, prayer, salah, charity, fasting, pilgrimage, Makkah (Mecca)