**The Christian Value of Peace**

**KS 3/4 – Being at peace**

Purpose – this is aimed at exploring the value of peace from a Christian perspective, to be at peace inside.

**John 14:27** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

[**Proverbs 3:5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=Proverbs+3%3A5&ver=niv) Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

**Slide 1**

Introductory slide to be displayed while listening to some music (you could use the hymn ‘Dear Lord and Father of Mankind’ as the words are used later in the reflection) and lighting of the candle (or whatever your usual worship/reflection routine may be). Explain that the theme of this reflection/worship session is ‘peace’. Find out what the students understand the meaning of peace to be and then transition to slide 2.

**Slide 2**

Discuss what makes these places appealing. Why is being in a peaceful place good for you? Would anyone feel more peaceful in a different kind of place?

**Slide 3**

Discuss the contrast with the places shown on this slide. Reflect upon how these two contrasting types of places can act as a metaphor for how we feel inside.

**Slide 4**

On this slide there is a quote taken from the book, ‘The Shack’ by William Paul Young and an image from a film of the same name inspired by the book. A story about loss and pain but through this an exploration of one’s relationship with God. But this passage, in particular, speaks of how we are not perfect beings but work in progress. It can also act as a reflection of our emotions and state of inner peace. Ask the rhetorical question, ‘How would you currently picture or describe your garden?’

Remind students that Christians believe that a relationship with Jesus through prayer and worship helps them to achieve a greater sense of inner peace as their garden is tended and worked to become the beautiful place God intends it to be. This often requires a lot of trust in God when times are difficult, to pray for His presence and help, and time with God when life is great, to thank and praise Him.

**Slide 5**

Use slide 5 to create a period of reflection. Play the hymn and suggest that the students either close their eyes or follow the words as the music plays. (Not all the verses are displayed no the slide – just the ones that link most closely with the theme )Following this, ask if anyone would be prepared to share any of their thoughts about the theme of peace.

**Slide 6**

Invite those who wish to join in with the prayer and make it their own.