

### 4.3.21

T: Can I write a prayer to ask God for forgiveness?



People who follow the teachings of Jesus are called **Christians**.

Before the beginning of Christianity, there was a religion called **Judaism** and this still exists today. Jesus was born a Jew and lived his life according to the Jewish tradition.



# The Story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Today we will be looking at the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector. If you have a Bible at home, you can find this story in **Luke 18:9-14**.



# Key vocabulary

**Pharisee-** a member of the ancient group of Jews who believed in obeying religious laws very carefully.

**Tax collector-** a person who collects unpaid taxes (money). In the Bible, tax collectors were disliked by many people.

**Humble-** a person who is not proud or arrogant, instead they are modest.

**Exalted-** to raise to the highest of heights.



# The Story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

<sup>9</sup> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”



# What have we learnt from the story?

Let's remember back to what we learnt in our last lesson about the pillars of Lent. Lent is a time of reflection to think about how we can help others in need, but first of all to look at ourselves and say sorry for the wrong choices we have made. Just like the tax collector in the story, there are times when we ask God for forgiveness.



# Today's Task

Your task today is to write a prayer to God asking for forgiveness. Think about something you may want to say sorry for, e.g. not being kind to your brother or sister or not sharing. Follow the prayer template below.



Dear God,

Please forgive me for...

Help me to...

Amen

