



What is a Holy place or a Place of Worship?

A place or worship is a special place within a religion where people may go to:

- Pray
- Spend time with friends and family.
- Give thanks to their God.
- Learn about their religion.

Many places of worship have special rules for people to follow as a way of showing respect.

What Is Worship?

Worship involves showing love or respect to something or someone. People who belong to a religion often worship a god or gods. Worship can happen in many different ways. Some religious believers show their respect and love by looking at a picture of their god and giving special gifts to it. Other people pray or talk to their god while they worship.



Why are they important?

Communities will come together in these special places. Special events such as Weddings or baptisms will take place here. These places are often where people feel really connected to their God.

Christian Faith & All about a Church!

Christians believe in one god. They believe that God created the world and everything in it. The holy place for Christians is called a Church. They are big buildings with special features. At a church you would see a cross, as this is the holy symbol for Christianity. The person who leads the prayers at a church is called a priest. The holy book is called the Bible and has many stories of Jesus and God.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Priest	The person who leads the prayer in a church.
Font	A basin of holy water.
Cross	Holy symbol of Christianity.
Stained glass window	A bright colourful window usually showing a story.
Pew	A seat in a church
Lectern	A tall stand where the Priest will read stories from the Bible.
Altar	A special place usually a table where a special type of worship happens called Holy Communion.



Sikhism & the Gurdwara

Sikh believers believe in only one God who created the whole world and everything in it. God created people to know the differences between right and wrong. Images of God are forbidden and they believe that all people are equal. A Sikh holy building is called a Gurdwara. Sikh believers will worship in public and in their holy building. Shoes must be removed and hair must be covered before entering the main hall.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Guru	Religious leader
Guru Granth Sahib	The Holy Book of the Sikh religion.
Guru Nanak	The founder of Sikhism.
Langar	A communal kitchen

Hinduism & the Mandir

Hindus believe in a supreme god called Brahma. They also believe that people live more than one life and that if they have done good things in this life, karma will mean that they will have a good next life. The Hindu place of worship is called a mandir, or Hindu temple. Not all Mandirs look the same but there are certain parts of the buildings that have special meaning. For example, the towers of a mandir remind Hindus that their spirits will reach heaven. Inside a mandir, you will find murtis. You might also find yantras.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
Murtis	Images or statues of Gods.
Yantra	Drawings of the universe using bright colours.
Mandir	Holy Building
Karma	Consequences caused by good actions.