Christianity PRAYER **Practices**

Which one of the following means a prayer that is made up by an 1. individual using his or her own words?

[1 mark]

- A) liturgical prayer
- B) special prayer C) set prayer
- D) informal prayer

2. Give two lines from the Lord's Prayer. [2 marks]

Our father who art in Heaven/ Hallowed by thy name/ Your kingdom come/ your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven/ Give us this day our daily bread/ Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us/lead us not into temptation/ deliver us from evil/ Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever

3. Explain two things that Christians might pray about. [4 marks]

Adoration: tell God how great he is

Confession: Say sorry for sin

Thanksgiving: Thank God for all the good things in life

Supplication: Ask God for help

Explain two Christian teachings about prayer. 4.

[5 marks]

Prayer should be honest "Do not pray like the hypocrites" Prayer should be direct "Do not babble on like pagans" Be persistent in prayer, like the "persistent widow" Ask for what you need "Give us this day our daily bread"

PRAYER Christianity Practices

5. 'Christians do not need to pray because God already knows what they need.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

God is omnipotent, omniscient and benevolent – He should know what Christians need, be loving to give it to them and have the power to do so – without prayer. God is unchanging so prayer will not make a difference to what happens – it is a waste of time. God allows suffering to happen to help Christian's character's to grow – why ask for this to be taken away?

Some Christians disagree:

There is more to prayer than just supplication – there is also adoration, confession and thanksgiving (expand on each one). Christians should pray because Jesus prayed. Some of Jesus' prayers were not answered but this helped him to understand God's plan in his life> E.g. Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. When Abraham spoke to God in the Bible, the conversation seemed to change God's plan whether to destroy a city, this shows that prayer can change God's plan. Jesus prayed for people to be healed and they were.

POTENTIAL WEAK ARGUMENT: God allows suffering so why pray? – Jesus prayed for suffering to be stopped and he is Christians main role model