# FACILITATION HELP: KEEP PRAYER VOLUNTARY

Some people don't like to pray out loud in front of others. In fact, it terrifies them. You may know someone who avoided coming to a church group just in case they might be asked to pray out loud. Praying out loud in front of the group should always remain strictly voluntary. Your group should be a safe place to pray, as well as not to pray. We might feel the urge to gently push a student to step outside their comfort zone, but for most just the opportunity itself and the example of peers is plenty of pressure. There's no reason to risk driving away a shy or reluctant student by putting them on the spot beyond that.



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## **CORE CONCEPTS**

Monotheism is the worldview that one, personal God created everything.

**God:** According to monotheism, God is a personal and transcendent being with thoughts, emotions, and a will.

ESSENTIALS QUESTION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

#### **STUDENT DISCUSSION 1:**

HOW DOES THE BAD NEWS OF THE WORLD DIFFER IN MONOTHEISM VERSUS PANTHEISM AND NATURALISM?

STUDENT DISCUSSION 2: HOW DOES MONOTHEISM OFFER HOPE IN A WAY WE CAN'T HAVE IN OTHER WORLDVIEWS?

#### STUDENT DISCUSSION 3:

JUDAISM, ISLAM, AND CHRISTIANITY ARE ALL MONOTHEISTIC RELIGIONS. WHAT DISTINGUISHES CHRISTIANITY FROM THE OTHER TWO?

### DROP THE MIC >>

#### CONCLUDE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH:

- » **ACTION PLAN:** How do you plan to think and act differently?
- » **FINAL REFLECTION:** Monotheism best explains the world around us.
- » **FINAL QUESTION**: Do you believe in one, personal God?