

Everyone Prays

Celebrating Faith Around the World

SUMMARY

- A multicultural concept book introducing children ages 4-8 to religions from around the world
- Nondenominational content gives due respect and admiration to each religion
- Religion is explored through the common experience of prayer and not through religious dogma
- Prayer is explored globally, from Shinto shrines in Japan to Maasai dances in Kenya to Jerusalem, India and beyond
- Simple text and vibrant, detailed illustrations invite questions and meaningful discussion
- Message of *we are different but the same* provides a platform for discussing diversity, tolerance, and other anti-bullying themes
- Includes a helpful Appendix for teachers and parents providing essential information about the world's religions, as well as detailed illustration notes

ABOUT THE BOOK

Everyone Prays offers young hearts and minds a chance to learn that, although people from other places and cultures may seem different, we all share the diverse world of faith and prayer. It transports us around the world to learn about the central role of prayer in the world's religions. Discover the Native American sun dance ceremony, visit the sacred sites in Jerusalem, behold the Shinto shrines in Japan, watch Maasai dances in Kenya, see pilgrimages to the river Ganges in India, and much, much more!

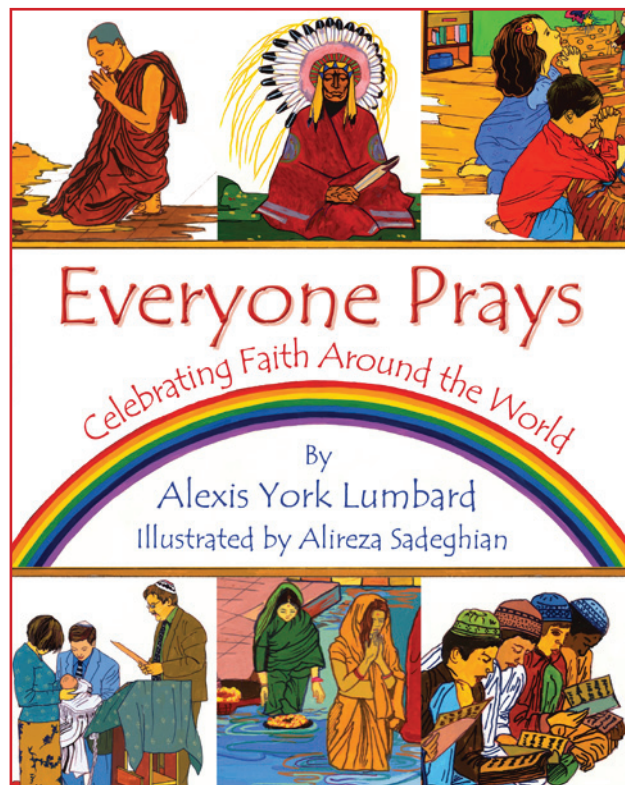
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alexis York Lumbard is an award-winning author of several children's titles. She is also a children's book critic for *London Link* magazine. She has a B.A. in Religious Studies from The George Washington University, and lives in Massachusetts with her husband and three daughters.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Alireza Sadeghian is an award-winning children's book illustrator and professional artist. He holds a degree in the preservation and restoration of historic sites and monuments, and lives in Isfahan, Iran with his wife and two children.

\$17.95, 28 pages, hardback, 8.75x11
28 color illustrations
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Finalist in the "Children's Picture Book: Hardcover Non-Fiction" category of The USA "Best Books 2014" Awards
Finalist in the "Children's Religious" category of The USA "Best Books 2014" Awards

"Both beginning readers and those still being read to should find this pictorial journey through the major religions' prayer practices to be informative and engaging."

—Publishers Weekly

"Using simple text, this title touches upon the traditions of prayer in the world's major religions, treating each custom with respect and reverence....

A gentle, effective way to introduce the youngest of children to the world's religions and what they have in common."

—School Library Journal

Wisdom Tales
Stories from Around the World

EVERYONE PRAYS — WISDOM TALES DISCUSSION GUIDE



QUESTIONS

1. Who prays?
2. Where do people pray?
3. How do people pray?
4. What are some of the objects with which people pray?
5. What are some of the reasons people pray?
6. Do people dress differently when praying? If so, how?
7. Prayer is important to many religions. What else do religions share in common (example: holidays—all religions have special holidays)?
8. What does it mean if a person prays with the heart?
9. How should people from one religion treat another?
10. What is the Golden Rule?



ACTIVITIES

1. *Make a Golden Ruler:* The goal of *Everyone Prays* is to nurture attitudes of respect and kindness, or as the Golden Rules says, *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.* Discuss the Golden Rule with your class. Then make a Golden Ruler by cutting a long strip of poster board. Have the class paint it yellow (or gold), then add measurement marks along one side—add as many marks as there are children in the classroom. Anytime a child performs a good deed for someone else at school, record the act of kindness on the ruler. Once the ruler is filled, celebrate with a prize (pajama day, crazy hair day, silly hat day, etc).

Supportive Reading: *Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler* by Margery Cuyler; *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson.

2. *Community: From Local to Global:* *Everyone Prays* explores the world of prayer and the many faith communities found in the world. Discuss other types of community, from local (family, school, neighborhood) to global. Consider making a “My Place in the World” paper-plate ornament by following the instructions found at <http://kidworldcitizen.org/2011/11/26/my-place-in-the-world-project/>.

Supportive Reading: *Same, Same but Different* by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw; *Say Hello* by Rachel Isadora.

