**ANSWERS**

**Lesson 1 medieval religion and the church**

**1a.** Everyone believed in **God** and went to **church** in the Middle Ages. The local church was the **biggest**  building. And would have been very **noisy** and **hectic**. People tried to lead good lives because they wanted to go **heaven**. They were afraid of **hell**.

1b. The villages had to give the church **10%** of their harvest as a tithe.

2a. It was important to have paintings and pictures on the church walls in the Middle Ages because the church services were held in Latin, which most people couldn’t understand. Also, many people at this time were just poor peasants, so they could not read and write.

2b. The purpose of a doom painting was to teach people about heaven and hell and to show them what these places were like. They would encourage people to want to be good in their lives so that they got to heaven as it was a comfortable, loving place to be. It might scare people from breaking the rules and was as they would not want to go to hell, as it was made to look so awful in the pictures.

2c. Drawing of a doom painting- pupil’s own work. Hopefully it shows both heaven and hell and associated themes!

3. The Pope was in overall control of the church. People believed and were taught that he was able to hear God’s word. He then passed this on to archbishops and abbots who would in turn teach God’s word to bishops and priors, who often ran the bigger churches in large medieval towns (cities didn’t exist yet). The bishops and friars would teach the parish priests and friars and these were often in charge of the small churches that were common in medieval villages. The bishops/ priors/ parish priests/ friars were helped by the monks and the nuns who worked and lived in the churches. Then the message was passed on to ordinary people, with the help if vivid doom paintings.

**Lesson 2- medieval doom painting labelling activity.**

1. Pupils might acknowledge that they can see heaven and hell, a ladder, angels and Christ at the top of the picture where nice things are happening, demons in the bottom and people suffering. People trying to get into heaven via the ladder etc.
2. Pupils add the labels either by cutting them out or writing them. This should help them to identify any specific features of the source they haven’t spotted.
3. Purgatory was a place that the church taught the soul went too before it went to heaven or hell, and the sins were burned away there. Purgatory was still a place of suffering, but you could eventually get into heaven if you had only committed minor sins. There were ways to speed up this process, such as giving money to the church. The church gave hope because they taught that almost everything was a sin, so if people felt they were condemned to hell, they might give up on being a good person altogether. So the second chance of purgatory did give hope.