

TLC Confirmation-Lesson C21

World Religions

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." -John 14:6

Make a list of as many religions as you can name. Do you know anyone who practices a religion other than Christianity?

Why should Christians study other religions?

Christianity:

- The _____ are confessions of the faith. They are used to give voice to what is believed, taught, and confessed about God.
- Read through the Nicene Creed. Then fill out the chart.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Definitions:

- Monotheism: Belief in _____ god.
- Polytheism: Belief in _____ gods.
- _____: Belief that there is no god or gods.
- Agnosticism: Lack of belief or disbelief in a god. Sense of “_____”
- _____: Ongoing cycle of life, death, and rebirth

Judaism:

- Believe in _____ that created everything.
- 3 Pillars of Faith
 1. _____
 2. _____: Jews trace their ancestry to Abraham through his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob (Israel)
 3. _____: Laws given to the Israelites at Mt. Sinai
- God promises to take care of Israel as long as they obey the Law.
- Purpose of life is to _____.
- Still waiting for the promised Messiah.
 - o Jesus is no more than a _____ like Moses or Elijah.

Islam:

- Believe in one God, _____, who is supreme and eternal
- Allah created the universe and everything in it
- Purpose of life is to _____.
 - o Muslim means “one who submits to God”
- A person’s deeds determine whether they go to _____ or _____.

- 5 Pillars of Islam: fundamental beliefs and practices
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Buddhism:

- Teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, or _____.
- There is no god
- Four Noble Truths
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
- The state free of suffering is called _____ or _____.
 - o If you don't reach enlightenment, you are _____.

Hinduism:

- There is one god, _____, who is _____ and _____.
 - o Many _____ and _____ are an expression of this supreme god.
- _____: way of living, ethics and duties
- Goal: liberation from _____ and being rejoined with _____.
 - o If you don't reach liberation, you are reincarnated

- Karma: _____
 - If you lived a good life you get a higher position in the next life
 - If you lived a bad life, you get a lower position in the next life

Discussion Questions:

- What makes Christianity unique from these other religions? How does this provide you hope?

- Read John 14:5-14. What evidence do we have that what the Bible says is true?

- How can we help people of other faiths turn to Jesus?