

Youth Group 11/11/20 - Buddhism

Review

- What four things set Christianity apart from every other religion?

Buddhism

- Buddhism has around 500 million followers and is the dominant religion of many Asian countries. About half live in _____. Other countries with high Buddhist populations include Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Japan, and South Korea.

- Buddhism developed from the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, "the Buddha", a teacher who lived in northern India between the 6th and 4th centuries BC. His teachings are called "dharma".

- The term Buddha means "_____". There is not only 1 Buddha. You can become a Buddha too if you become enlightened.

- The monks and nuns that follow Buddhism are called "Sangha".

- The leading monk in Tibetan Buddhism is called the "_____". He is thought to be a reincarnation of a past Dalai Lama.

- Like Hinduism, Buddhism has many different and even contradictory forms.

- Many celebrities claim to be Buddhist: Mark Zuckerberg, Brad Pitt, Tiger Woods, etc.

- The coolest Buddhists are Shaolin Monks > Buddhist warrior monks.

Beliefs

- God: Buddhism is a _____. They do not follow any god.

- Scripture: There are some sacred texts that describe suffering and the path to enlightenment

- Primary problem: _____

- Suffering is caused by desire and ignorance

- Like Hinduism, Buddhists also believe in _____ > you get what you deserve

- Buddhism does not propose to end all suffering

- Buddhists believe in _____

- Each person must live a succession of lives

- You can be reborn as 1 of 6 beings based on your works in the previous life >

- 3 good: heavenly, demi-god, human

- 3 bad: animal, hungry ghost, hellish

- The ultimate spiritual goal of Buddhism is to escape the reincarnation cycle by reaching _____

- There is no permanence to human souls

- Ultimate nirvana is reached by _____
- How is the Buddhist view of reincarnation different than Hindu?
- Another goal of Buddhism is to find inner peace and wisdom. How do they find inner peace and wisdom?
 - By overcoming _____ > not letting suffering affect you
 - Becoming enlightened by experiencing Nirvana = losing self to the universe
 - We can experience nirvana through _____
 - Devotion: Ritual prayer (often with the expectation that no one is listening), prostration, offerings, pilgrimage, chanting
- Where we agree with Buddhists:
 - Something is broken in the world, suffering is bad, worldly pleasures are fleeting and can't satisfy
- Where we disagree with Buddhists:
 - Sin, not suffering is the main problem
 - Karma doesn't exist
 - We can't be saved by our own efforts
 - We need a savior to get rid of suffering once for all
- What does this religion believe...
 - ...about God?
 - ...about man?
 - ...is wrong with the world?
 - ...has been/is being/will be done to make it right?
 - ...is the source for knowing these things?

Study Guide

- What four things set Christianity apart from every other religion? Christianity is based on objective, verifiable, historical fact. Jesus is God. We are saved by faith and not works. The Trinity.

- Buddhism has around 500 million followers and is the dominant religion of many Asian countries. About half live in China. Other countries with high Buddhist populations include Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Japan, and South Korea.

- The term Buddha means "enlightened". There is not only 1 Buddha. You can become a Buddha too if you become enlightened.

The leading monk in Tibetan Buddhism is called the "Dalai Lama". He is thought to be a reincarnation of a past Dalai Lama.

- God: Buddhism is a way of life. They do not follow any god.

- Primary problem: suffering

- Like Hinduism, Buddhists also believe in Karma > you get what you deserve

- Buddhists believe in reincarnation

- The ultimate spiritual goal of Buddhism is to escape the reincarnation cycle by reaching nirvana

- Ultimate nirvana is reached by doing good works

- By overcoming suffering > not letting suffering affect you

- We can experience nirvana through meditation