

BreakThru

From Catechism to *Christ*

WORLD RELIGIONS

LEARNING EVENT MAKE-UP

WELCOME TO THE WORLD COUNCIL OF RELIGIONS

Gather your family around the kitchen table. Open together by having someone read the prayer below:

O my God! O my God!
Unite the hearts of Thy servants,
and reveal to them Thy great purpose.
May they follow Thy commandments
and abide in Thy law.
Help them, O God, in their endeavor,
and grant them strength to serve Thee. O God!
Leave them not to themselves
but guide their steps by the light of Thy knowledge,
and cheer their hearts by Thy love.
Verily, Thou art their Helper and their Lord.
Baha'i Prayer

For this session, your family will be taking some time to research and explore a variety of world religions and compare them with Christianity. Then, you will take some time to discuss and respond to several important questions.

EXPLORING WORLD RELIGIONS

Using resources listed below and others that you may have available, do some research on major world religions below focusing on the specific items called for in the table.

Choose THREE religions in addition to Christianity for this part of the assignment and use the chart on the next page to record your findings. Here are some world religions you may wish to choose from:



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- Judaism
- Islam
- Atheism
- Buddhism
- Christian Science
- Confucianism
- Gnosticism
- Hinduism
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Taoism
- Unitarian Universalism

Here are some resources that you may wish to consider using. Please list resources that you used.

The Lutheran Handbook, pp. 68-69

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith by: Robert Farlee *(Available to borrow from Erin)*

<http://www.patheos.com/Library/Lenses/Side-By-Side>

http://www.religionfacts.com/big_religion_chart.htm

Religion Name				Christianity
Central Belief or Beliefs				
Key Leader or Leaders (Historic or Current)				
What you have to do to become a member				

Religion Name				Christianity
Important Rituals				
Key Holy Writings				
Important Laws (What do you have to do if you are a member?)				
What do you like about this religion?				
What do you not like about this religion? What makes you uncomfortable?				

List resources used in the space below:

WORLD COUNCIL OF RELIGIONS

Having researched several major world religions, discuss and respond to the questions below.

What do you think these faiths have in common? What do they share?

What divides us? What are the major issues on which we disagree—the ones that keep us from unity? Why do these issues matter?

Are the issues that divide us more important than what we have in common? Why or why not?

What are some things we can do to overcome our differences? How can we strengthen all we hold in common?