World Religions Basics

Listening Guide

[1] You described, "Brahman" in Lesson 3. List at least two Comparisons and two contrasts between Brahman and the biblical God.

I. The Hindu View of Salvation

[2] Explain the difference between being an extension of God and being God's image bearer.

[3] In a paragraph write how would you explain "Karma" to a 5-year old child.

[4] What are some of the differences between Hindu "salvation" and Christian salvation?

II. The Buddhist View of Salvation

[5] List a few ways Buddhism and Hinduism are similar.

[6] How is Buddha's "blowing out" different from the ultimate goal of Hinduism?

[7] How do you describe your ultimate goal?

III. The Islamic View of Salvation

[8] In what ways does this paragraph's description of what Muslim's believe agree with and differ from your own beliefs?

[9] What does Islam say a person must do to enter heaven?

[10] How is that similar and how is it different from your understanding of what a person must do to enter heaven?

[11] How clear is the Islamic teaching on heaven and hell?

[12] How do you describe heaven? And Hell?

[13] As you view your own life and the lives of others would you agree or disagree with the Koran's view of human nature?

[14] Do you think it would be easy or difficult for you to fulfill the Muslim requirements to enter heaven?

[15] How comfortable would feel about dying if you were a Muslim?

[16] How comfortable do you feel now about your eternal destiny?

[17] Why do you feel as you do about your existence after you die?

[18] Do you feel it's possible for anyone to feel confident about what happens to them after they die? Why?

IV. The Judeo-Christian View of Salvation

[19] How does the God of the Old and New Testament view human sin and what is His response to it?

V. How the God of the Bible sees us.

[20] Do you agree that humans are able – and do – grieve God by their actions and attitudes?

[21] How accurately do any of the attitudes and actions in the paragraph describe you?

[22] Do you agree or disagree with this rather condemning description of humanity?

[23] Why did you answer as you did? What evidence came to your mind?

[24] Why do you think the Bible makes it so clear and obvious that God sees us as needy sinners?

VI. What the God of the Bible cannot do.

[25] Is God just when He states that sin cannot be ignored?

[26] Why is it so important to be serious about sin?

VII. What the God of the Bible did.

[27] How did God deal with human sin?

[28] How would you explain the content of this paragraph to a middle school child?

[29] Who does this paragraph say died for the sins of the world?

[30] To present the Christian view of Salvation, presented in these paragraphs (slides 40-43), it is essential to clearly explain what these paragraphs are teaching. Take a few minutes to review them and write what they teach in your own words.

[31] Why do Christians give themselves to Christ in loving obedience, worship, and service?

[32] Describe what contribution you think Jesus' resurrection makes to the Christian teaching of salvation.

VIII. Back to the Beginning

[33] In what important way does this paragraph say the world is different today than it was in the first century?

[34] How does that difference influence Christians' ability to share their beliefs with others in today's world?

[35] What can Christians learn today from how Paul functioned as a Christian witness in his time?

[36] What's the difference between being Jesus' witnesses as He commanded in Acts 1:8 and in being a Christian who imposes his or her beliefs on others?

[37] What does Paul's advice to Timothy suggest a Christian should do if someone wants to quarrel about religious beliefs?

[38] What can a Christian do instead of quarreling?

[39] Should Christians refuse to talk about their faith to those who don't understand or agree with it? Why or Why not?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

Application

If, after completing this lesson and this course you have not committed to any religious belief system, which one do you find most believable? The course, while attempting to be fair to all the religions discussed, is, written by Christians who obviously, believe it is essential that everyone accept Jesus' invitation to accept His gift of forgiveness. Before leaving this lesson, weigh what you have studied in the course and make that decision.

If you have accepted Christ as your savior, consider carefully the statement, "Christians say they cannot comprehend such love but can only marvel at it and give themselves to Christ in loving obedience, worship and service" (see the section, "What the God of the Bible did"). Does that sentence describe your response to what God did for you through Jesus' death and resurrection? If not, it's important to follow the pattern of many Christians how make that commitment on a daily basis.