

I Believe



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I Believe

Purpose

To begin to explore personal beliefs and to see the similarities between the beliefs of the major world religions.

Entrance of Pupils

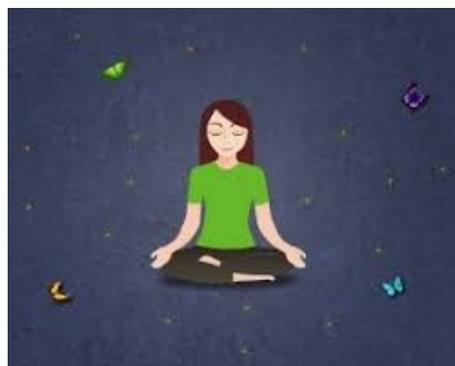
A thought provoking slideshow introducing the theme of 'I Believe' for the pupils to enter assembly to (10 minutes)

Introduction

Most people have a set of ideas or beliefs that are important to them in order to live a life that makes sense and has a purpose. Sometimes these are individual, personal beliefs (we might call them MORALS) and sometimes they are from the religion or creed that we belong to.

Without morals, the world would be a very ugly place where everyone only cared about themselves. The rule of law would quickly break down and chaos would result.

So, what do you believe to be important?



My Personal Creed

- ◇ I believe that meeting people with a smile can change their day
- ◇ I believe that what you see on the surface isn't necessarily what is going on deep down
- ◇ I believe that we should share our good fortune
- ◇ I believe that, just like plants and flowers, we need rainy days as well as sunny days to help us to grow
- ◇ I believe that we can keep our friends as long as we understand that they will grow and change
- ◇ I believe that you can keep going, long after you think you can't
- ◇ I believe that either you control your attitude....or it controls you.
- ◇ I believe that money does not buy you happiness
- ◇ I believe that heroes are ordinary people who do what has to be done regardless of the consequences
- ◇ I believe that my best friend and I can do something or nothing and have the best time
- ◇ I believe that sometimes I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel
- ◇ I believe that you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret as it might change your life
- ◇ I believe that being mature is more about what you have learned from experiences and less about your age



- ◇ I believe that everyone has the right to be an individual and still be accepted
- ◇ I believe that together we can work to stop war and famine
- ◇ I believe that a kind word can mend a sad heart
- ◇ I believe that no one should be isolated or left out
- ◇ I believe that every pupil has the right to get on with their work without interruption

Think silently to yourself how you might finish the following:

I believe.....

On a day like today, I believe.....

When life gets tough, I believe.....

Even if my friends think differently, I believe.....

Every religion is based on a set of beliefs—ideas that govern how we might try to live a really good and better life.



Many of the world religions have a great number of similar beliefs, even if they are explained in different ways.

People who do not follow a particular faith will also have rules or morals by which they try to live a good life.

The Beliefs of the Major World Religions

Christianity

- **Love God**
- **Love your neighbour as you love yourself**

Islam

- **Belief in Allah as the one and only God**
- **Belief in the angels**
- **Belief in the Holy Books**

Hinduism

- **Truthfulness**
- **Peacefulness**
- **Staying true to one partner**
- **Not stealing**
- **Honesty**
- **Cleanliness**
- **Contentment**
- **Reading the Holy Books**



Buddhism

- Learning
- Having the right attitude
- Saying true and kind things
- Doing the right thing
- Earning an honest living
- Making an effort
- Caring for others
- Praying/meditating

Judaism

- There is one God
- Be just and compassionate
- Learn about the Holy Books and what they teach

Sikhism

- Keep God in mind at all times
- Earn an honest living
- Share earnings by giving to charity and caring for others

Did you notice how many of the beliefs are very, very similar to each other?



The Bible Says.

Both the Christian and Jewish faiths are based on the TEN COMMANDMENTS given to Moses by God :

1. Love God more than anything else
2. Don't make anything more important than God
3. Don't misuse God's name
4. Rest on the seventh day and keep it holy
5. Love and respect your parents
6. Never hurt anyone
7. Keep wedding promises to be faithful
8. Don't steal
9. Always tell the truth
10. Don't be jealous

[Old Testament Exodus 31:18](#)

Quotes

Henry David Thoreau, an American philosopher said:

'Live your beliefs and you can turn the world around'

Mahatma Ghandi, an activist for peace said:

'The essence of all religions is one. Only their approaches are different.'

M. Scott Peck, American author of 'The Road Less Travelled' said

'Share the similarities, celebrate the differences.'



Let's Pray

Dear God

Help us to think carefully about what are the right things to do in life.

Give us the help and strength to try to keep to these beliefs even when we are tempted to do other things.

Amen

Find out 10 facts about the Christian Faith

Exit of Pupils

A thought provoking slideshow of the key issues raised in the assembly about the theme of 'I Believe' for the pupils to exit assembly to (10 minutes)



Collective Worship and Putting it into Practice for the Rest of the Week

Over the week, make a 'World Religions Display' adding interesting facts about the different faith's each day.

Day 2

Dear God

Let us remember that what we believe is often very similar to the beliefs of people in different religions and that we have lots of things in common.

Remind us, as M Scott Peck says to "Share the similarities, and celebrate the differences.'

Amen

Find out 10 facts about the Muslim Faith (Islam)

Day 3

Dear God

Thank you for making the world a varied and interesting place. We pray for tolerance between all the different faiths so that people can live in peace and harmony.

Amen

Find out 10 facts about the Hindu Faith



Day 4

Dear God

Help me to avoid the temptation to do things that hurt others through unkindness, hatred or jealousy and to keep in mind the 10 commandments to focus on the guideline for what is right.

Amen

Find out 10 facts about the Buddhist Faith

Day 5

Dear God

You said that we should 'love our neighbour as much as we love ourselves.' This is particularly hard to do with people that we don't like very much or are unkind to us.

Give us the strength to try our hardest to care for each other, even when we find it difficult.

Amen

Find out 10 facts about the Jewish or Sikh Faiths

