
Buddhism

TODAY'S PASSAGES: John 14:6; Romans 8:28; Hebrews 4:14

What do you mean by intolerant?

1. _____ *Tolerance*
2. _____ *Tolerance*
3. _____ *Tolerance*

Key Terms and Beliefs:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Four Noble Truths:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

The Noble Eightfold Path:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Four ways God uses suffering:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: COEXIST

Message #2 - BUDDHISM

Speaker: Dean Orrell – Associate Pastor – May 15, 2022

1. What jumped out at you from this week's message? Did you learn anything new? Discuss.

2. **Read John 14:6**

a. How does this verse set the stage for how we are to think about other religions?

3. What do you know about Buddhism?

4. Dean talked about three aspects of Hinduism that Buddhism adopted

a. Reincarnation

b. Karma

c. Enlightenment (Nirvana)

What has been your understanding of each of these terms? Did anything surprise you? Have you ever had a conversation with someone who believed in 'Karma'?

5. What are the **4 Noble Truths**?

a. Life involves suffering

b. Suffering is caused by desire, craving and grasping.

c. There is a way out of suffering – and that way out is enlightenment or Nirvana

d. The way to achieve Nirvana is called the "Noble Eightfold Path"

6. Read the **Eightfold Path**

a. Right View or Right Understanding - this is related to reality, as in seeing the world as it truly is and not what we want it to be.

b. Right Intent – this is related to commitment – perseverance, persistence, you're committed to the process

c. Right Speech – never underestimate the power of words. Choose your words carefully and use them positively

d. Right Action – ethics are at the center of this and is guided by the Five Precepts of Buddhism, which are:

i. Don't kill

ii. Don't steal

iii. Don't lie

iv. Avoid sexual misconduct

v. Avoid intoxication

e. Right Livelihood – There are certain types of jobs that are discouraged in Buddhism, based on how they relate to right actions. For example, working at a liquor store, or a gun shop, or a butcher. But everyone who can, should work – including chores. Everyone needs to contribute.

f. Right Effort – right effort should produce an attitude of steady and cheerful determination. This has a lot to do with positive thinking.

g. Right Mindfulness – this means being aware of the moment and being focused in that moment. Being present.

h. Right Concentration – developing the ability to see clearly through a focused mind and heart.

7. How does the Eightfold Path compare to the life that Jesus wants us to live? Romans 12:2, Ephesians 2:8-9, Ephesians 5:1-2

8. Dean talked about 4 ways that God uses suffering.
 - a. Suffering Brings Repentance - [2 Corinthians 7:10](#)
 - b. Suffering Brings Reliance - [2 Corinthians 1:8-10](#)
 - c. Suffering Brings Righteousness - [Hebrews 12:11](#)
 - d. Suffering give us a witness - [2 Corinthians 1:4](#)

APPLICATION:

- If you have a Buddhist friend or know someone who is Buddhist will you commit to praying for them to discover Jesus?
- How would you share your testimony with our Buddhist friends?
- Memorize [Romans 8:28](#) this week.

RESOURCES:

Videos from Create International

- [True Merit](#) – Animation for Thai Buddhists
- [Freedom from Suffering](#) – Technique used by church planters in Myanmar