



Religion	Baha'i
Denomination	n/a
Question answered:	How special is your relationship with God? (KS2 Q1)
Key concepts, questions, and outcomes:	How might beliefs and community shape a person's identity? Describe and explain what motivates and inspires believers and how this can be reflected in actions/practice.
Key teaching points:	For a Baha'i, God is made manifest through Baha'u'llah and they aim to live in love and harmony with all of humankind.
Prior knowledge:	How a range of religions understand God

Core Vocabulary:			
Gratitude	Being thankful for things	Manifestation	Revealing of something hidden, or physical representation of something spiritual
Baha'u'llah	The founder of the Baha'i faith.	Endowed	Gifted, given

Summary of answers:
<p>God is special in every aspect of the first speaker's life, from the start of the day onwards. He tries to take nothing for granted but to thank God for life, faith and health and wellbeing. He is very intentional in giving thanks for his relationship with God, his eyesight and his ability to move about.</p> <p>The second speaker sees her relationship in terms of trust. She tells a Chinese story about a horse that runs away, and with each turn of the tale the neighbours either commiserate or congratulate the owner. She interprets this story as showing that we never know what will happen, so people need to put their trust in God, rather than assuming that something is either good or bad.</p> <p>The third speaker experiences God through the person of Baha'u'llah, who manifests God for this age. She believes that the image of God in Baha'u'llah is engraved on people's hearts and so they can be like him and share the attributes of God. The best way to show love for God is to love other people. She quotes 'Do not be content with showing friendship in words alone, let your heart burn with loving-kindness for all who may cross your path.' It is only through reading the scriptures, learning the laws and praying that we can love others. The message of unity and harmony and viewing all people as a family is emphasised here.</p>

Next Steps:
<p>Compare the quote: 'Do not be content with showing friendship in words alone, let your heart burn with loving-kindness for all who may cross your path' to quotes about love from other religious traditions and the Golden Rule.</p> <p>Consider what it would look like if everyone lived like this and suggest some reasons why humans seem to find this so hard.</p> <p>Compare the image of Baha'u'llah as God with that of other manifestations of God that the pupils have encountered.</p>