

Religion	Baha'i
Denomination	n/a
Question answered:	How does your belief in God affect your daily life? (KS2 Q2)
Key concepts, questions, and outcomes:	Practice, prayer, lifestyle To what extent do religious beliefs influence and encourage 'good' behaviour? Pupils can link Baha'i beliefs to the way that these people behave and talk and compare it with a range of other traditions and beliefs.
Key teaching points:	For a Baha'i, work is worship and the whole of life is about seeking to know and love God better
Prior knowledge:	Daily practice in a range of traditions

Core Vocabulary:			
Meditation	The practice of thinking deeply or reflecting usually on religious or sacred matters.	Baha'u'llah	Founder of the Baha'i faith, believed to be the manifestation of God.
Transcendent	Supreme, beyond all else		

Summary of answers:
<p>The first speaker talks about how her faith gives her purpose in life. She recites a daily prayer as part of her morning meditation: 'I bear witness, o my God, that thou hast created me to know thee and to worship thee.' This prayer reminds her of the purpose of life. She explains that if you love someone you want to be with them and know more about them. And that is true of Baha'u'llah. Each morning a Baha'i is to consider how they are feeling; whether they are prayerful or close to God and to thank him and ask for more strength to live better.</p> <p>She quotes another saying of Baha'u'llah: 'Let each morn be better that its eve, and each morrow richer than its yesterday'.</p> <p>The second speaker says that his relationship with God is the foundation of all the other loves that he has, whether for family or friends. Loving someone makes us want to please them, and so he aims to live life the way God wants. But when he fails, there are prayers for forgiveness and each day can start with seeking to live better.</p> <p>He also talks about how lives should be lived in service of one another and humanity. There are said to be four qualities that Baha'u'llah longed to see in his followers. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enthusiasm and courage, • a smiling face and radiant countenance, developing an inner contentment, • seeing through your own eyes, in other words thinking for yourself, trusting God, • to persevere and see a task through to completion. <p>The third speaker feels that God is close to her all the time and considers every thought and action through the prism of God's character. She considers all the time whether God would approve of what she is doing. She believes that everything that happens is part of God's plan, even the challenges, and so she trusts in God. She also believes that work is worship and should be offered in a spirit of service and seek to serve humanity in whatever she does.</p>

Next Steps:
<p>Consider the two quotes and look for similarities and differences with other traditions. Compare them for example with lamentations 3:22-23 or the Jewish Shema in Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Compare the Baha'i attitude to work with that of the Sikh notion of earning an honest living, or the work of many charities.</p>



Suggest jobs that a Baha'i is more likely to do, giving reasons.
Consider the four qualities that are mentioned. What might the world be like if everyone lived like this?
Role play some scenarios considering the way a Baha'i might react to difficult situations.