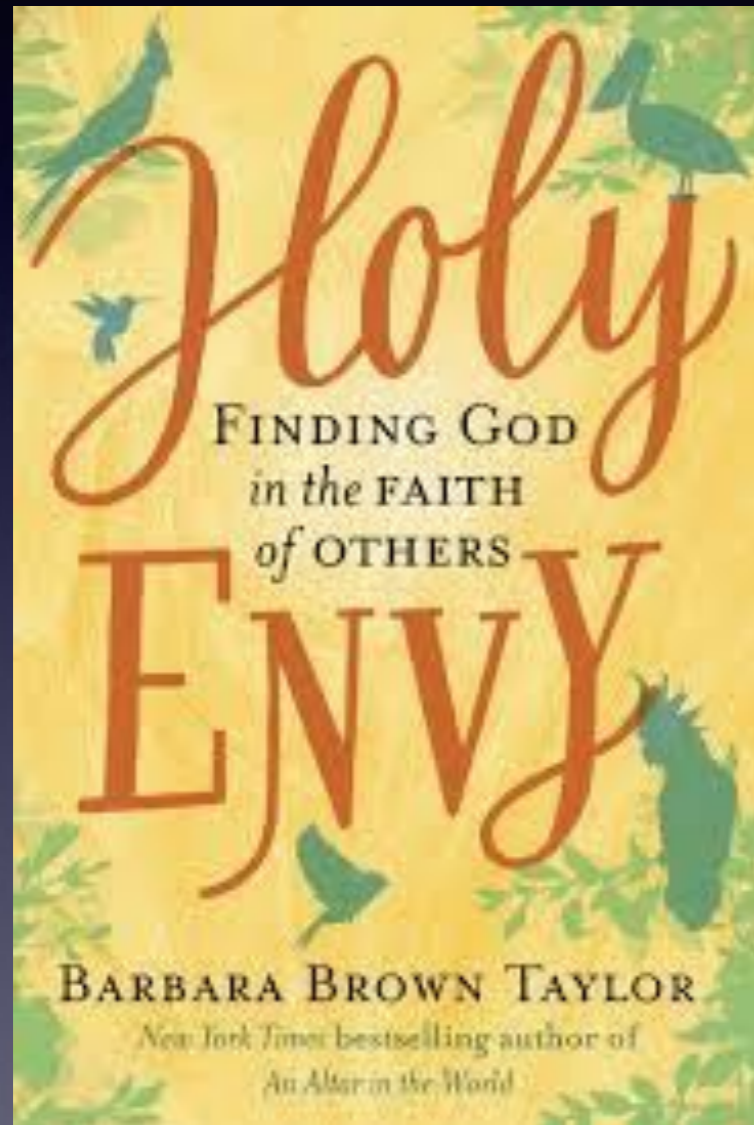


Holy Envy

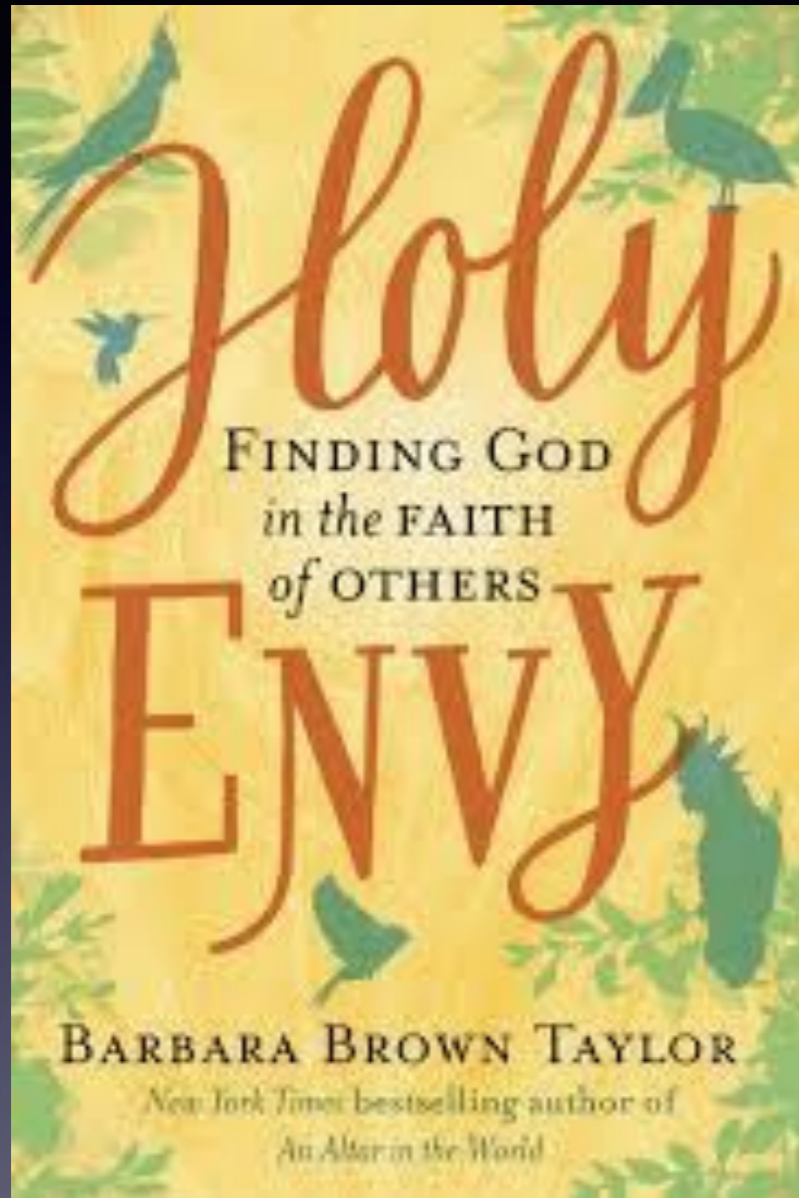


Holy Manners Bookstudy 43

ACTS
Fall 2019

St David's United Church
Calgary

Holy Envy - Session 6



Welcomes & Intros

Housekeeping

Reflection on visit to Baitan Nur Mosque

Invitation to visit to Calgary Buddhist Monastery

Other ACTS-related activities:

Opening Prayer





Baitan Nur Mosque

Opening Reflection

Eldon Godfrey

Presentation

Wayne

Our Readings for Tonight

Chapter 6 - Disowning God

Perhaps "Disowning God" should read
"Disowning OUR EXCLUSIVE CLAIM on God"

Chapter 7 - The Shadow-Bearers

Our guides from other faiths (like Judaism and Islam)
can sometimes help us discover a deeper understanding
of our own faith

Focus on Chapter 6

Special Background Points (102-103)

1. What does it mean to be a person of faith in a world of many faiths?
2. If God is revealed in many ways, why follow the Christian way?
3. Is Christian faith primarily about being Christian or about being truly human?
4. How does loving Jesus equip me to love those who do not love him the way I do?
5. What do religious strangers reveal to me about God?

- discuss



Taylor looks out to other religions, not to convert them to Christianity, but to share and appreciate their different understandings of the holy and the good. It follows:

"No one owns God" (118)

Claiming God for yourself is not the same as excluding others' understandings of God

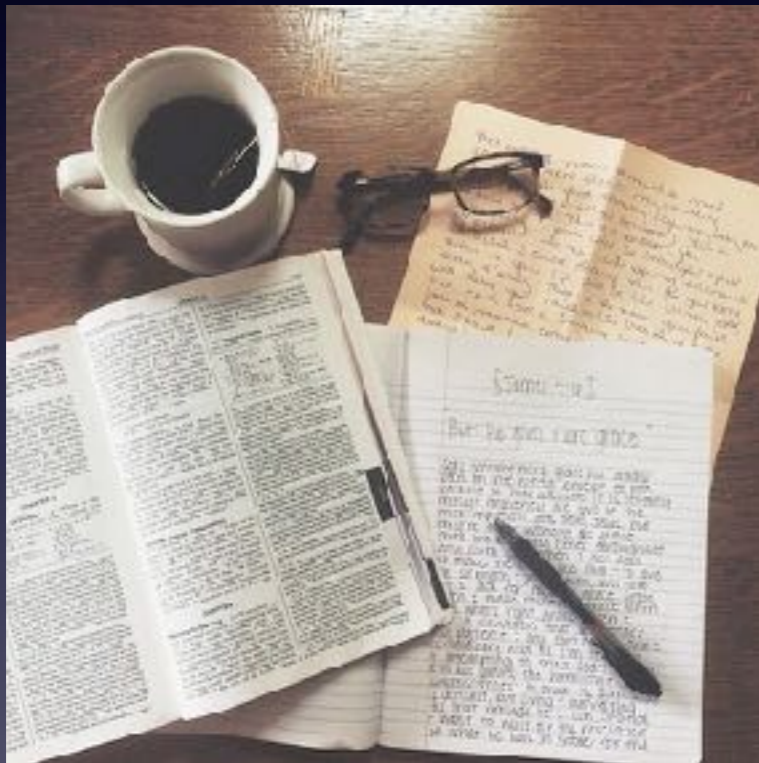
Extensive Discussion !

- This point applies equally to internal Christian faith/worship matters as well as to external, inter-church/inter-faith matters .
- The author discusses Sacred Songs we sing and the Scriptures we read.

DISCUSS

How might we advise worship leaders about our choices in music and our scripture selections and translation?

"The Bible is bigger than I am" (106)



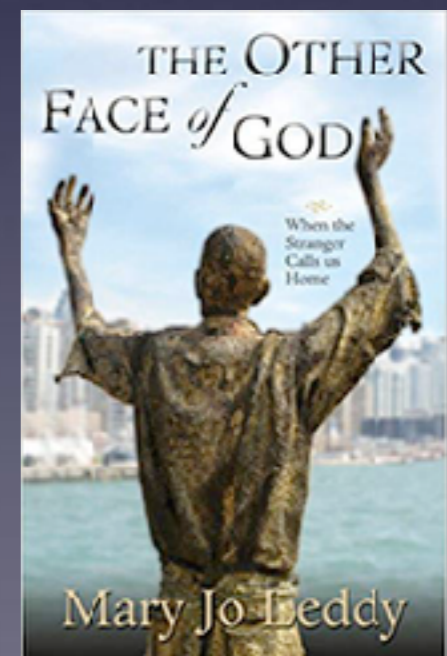
Wayne comments on the importance of biblical theology and spiritual discernment in our understanding of the Bible and its use for group study and congregational worship.

“God works through redemptive religious strangers” (117)

Wayne refers to a reflection on hospitality he offered at worship last summer. "Welcoming the Stranger" (Mary Jo Leddy)

Who are the angels we need to welcome among us?
(guests who visit our church - and our refugee ministry)

Discussion



Time permitting -

Jesus gives examples of "strangers" who challenge the "righteous"

- the "prophet" in the synagogue in Nazareth
- the widow at Sidon
- Naaman the Syrian general

- discuss

Jesus spoke of “many sheep” and “many folds”

Who are the people you can think of now who walk their spiritual journeys with equal devotion to the way you live?

- evangelical Christians?
- conservative Catholics?
- Mormons?
- non-believers?

- discuss





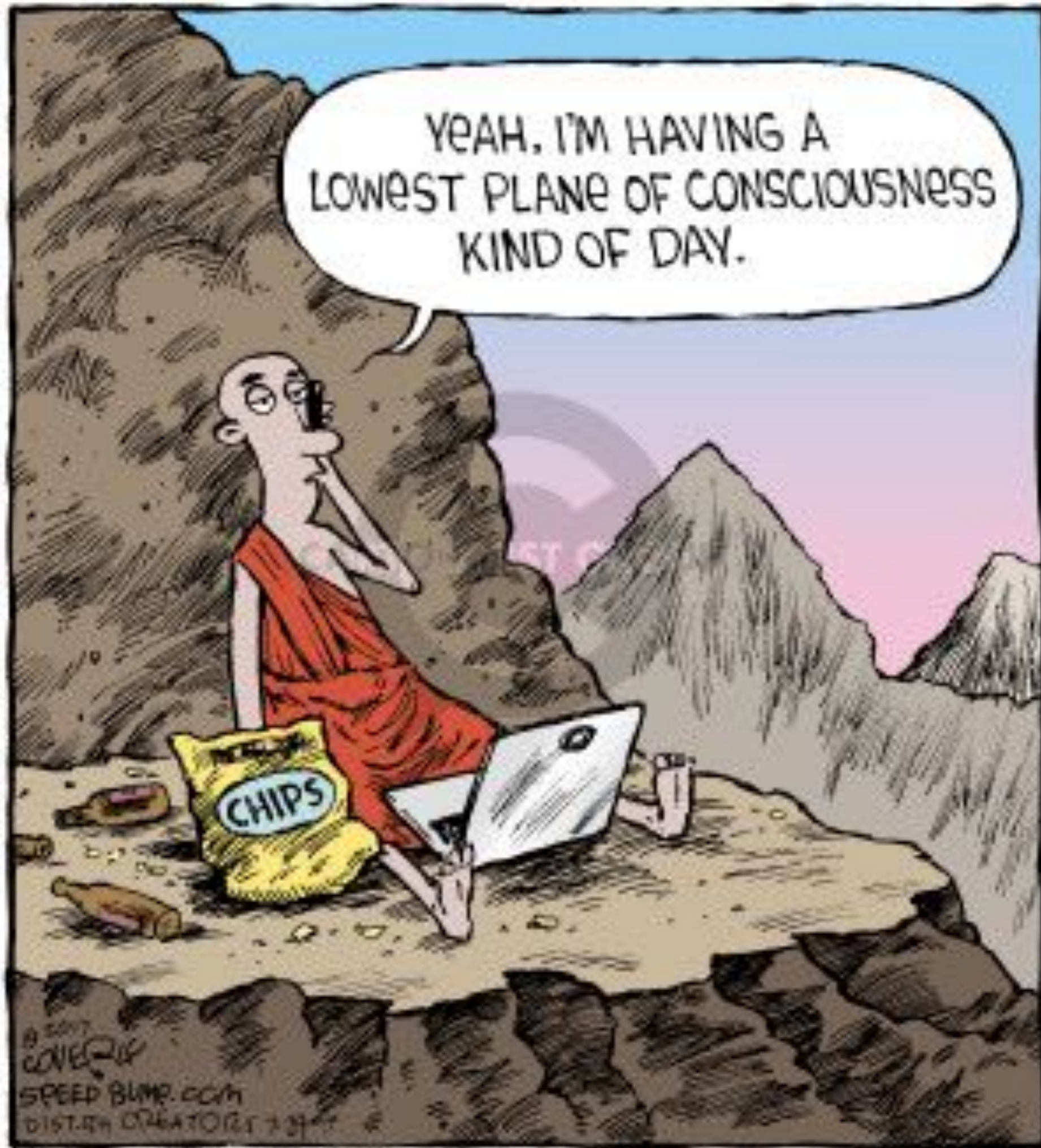
Time now. Please return.

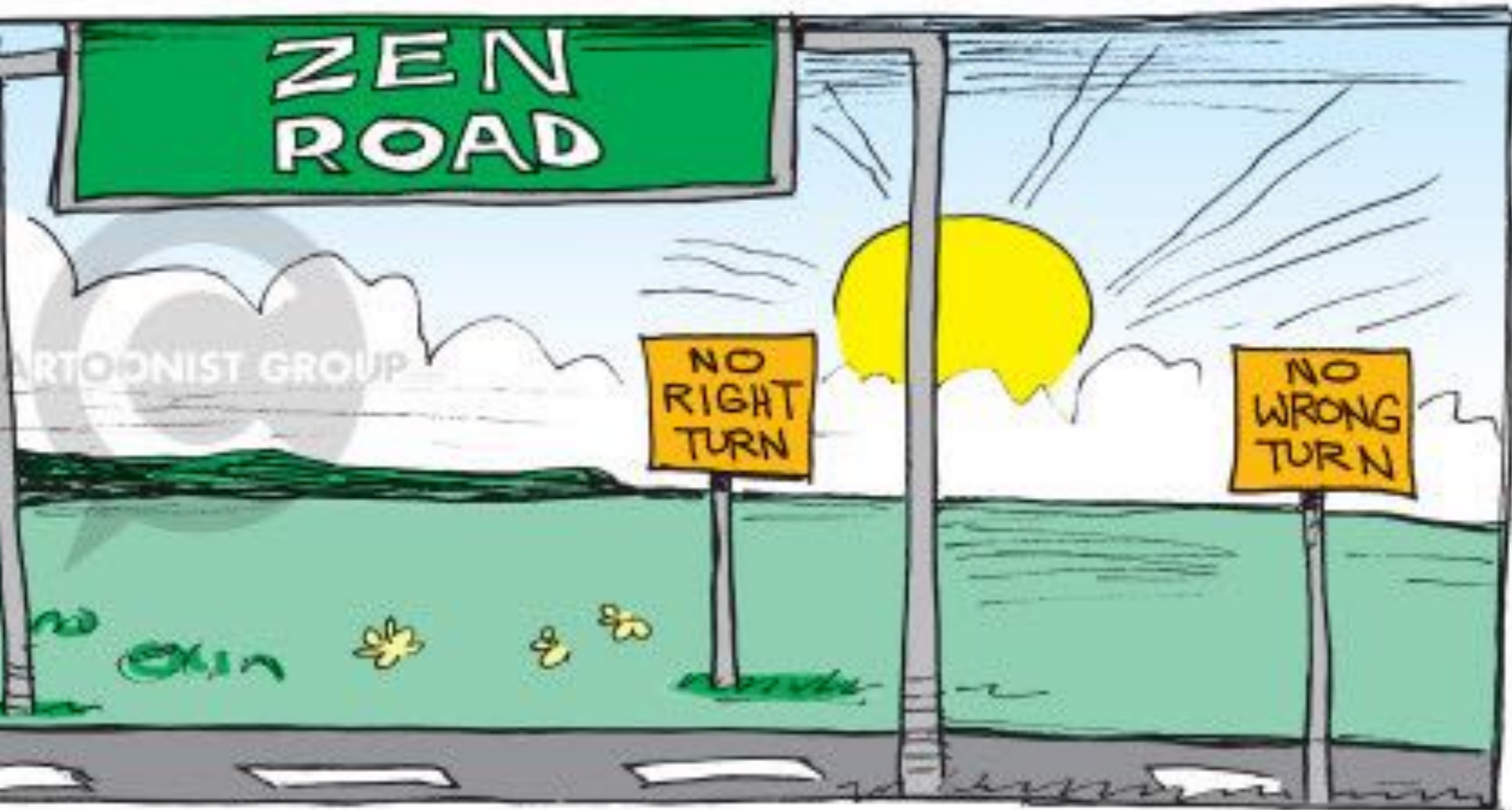


© Creators Syndicate.

It looks like Millicent is about to impede Neal's spiritual journey.

YEAH, I'M HAVING A
LOWEST PLANE OF CONSCIOUSNESS
KIND OF DAY.



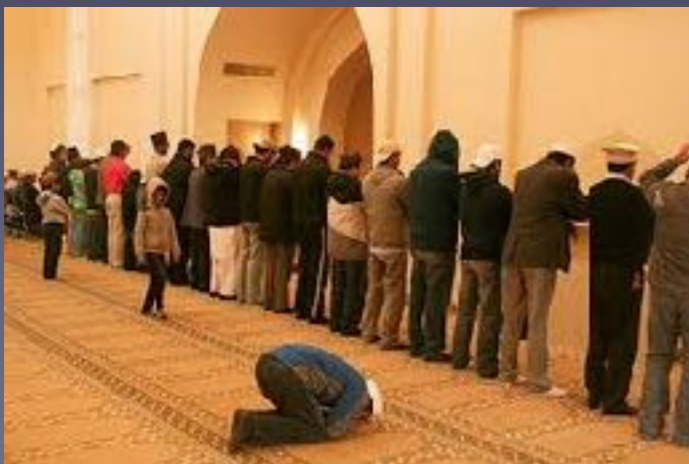


Strange Brew by John Deering

Group Visit to Baitun Nur Mosque

The Muslim Ahmadiyya Community in Calgary

Monday 21 October



A special lesson from Asif Arif at the Baitan Nur Mosque that spoke to me in a special way -

- What does it mean to spread your faith?
- What does it mean to evangelize?
- To seek to convert?
- To proclaim your understanding of the truth?
- To bear witness without expectation?

Discussion

“Holy Envy”



- What special thoughts would you like to share about your visit last Monday evening?
- How did you feel about watching people worship at the mosque?
(133)



There is none worthy of worship except Allah;
Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.

Islam Ahmadiyya - The Real Revolution (Muslim TV Ahmadiyya Documentary)

Excerpt 4m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jjqr6BXZQrk>



Stendahl's Three Rules of Religious Understanding

1. When trying to understand another religion, you should ask the adherents of that religion and not its enemies.
2. Don't compare your best to their worst.
3. Leave room for holy envy.



**Holy Envy Lecture On Religious Pluralism
In Honor Of Krister Stendahl 2009
Professor Menachem Fisch**

2m excerpt of 28m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SoPDVLphDrl&t=5s>



**Worship with Music - Song and Dance
Sufi men in Chechnya**

1m excerpt of 28m

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJXcrM3B4zI>



Ch 7 "The Shadow-Bearers"

Some considerations from Taylor (122-3)

1. Recognizing the entanglement of politics, economics, history and religion.
2. Noticing how religions change from culture to culture.
3. Vetting the viewpoints of your news sources.
4. Resisting the tendency to judge the many by the actions of the few.
5. Understanding the dynamics of your own fear.

How does politics get in the way
of honest spiritual encounter?

Summary statement regards Interfaith dialogue between Christians, Jews and Muslims

"Christians don't own Jesus
any more than we own God"

- discuss



A Closing Personal Thought

I am grateful to live in Canada. Where I seem to be exposed to a fairer/more balanced media. So that I can experience the goodness of other faith traditions (including Indigenous). We must continue to work hard to protect that freedom.

Next Readings

Session 7 - 4 Nov 2019

Ch 8: Failing Christianity

Ch 9: Born Again

Study Website

sduc.ca



Baitan Nur Mosque

Closing Reflection

Eldon Godfrey