

Topic: Good and bad; right and wrong: How do I decide?

Concepts: Living a Good Life



Change and Diversity



The Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
3. Thou shalt not make the name of the Lord God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
5. Honour thy father and thy mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
10. Thou shalt not covert anything that belongs to thy neighbour.

Buddhists follow the teachings of the Buddha and try to behave in a way that affects their environment positively. This includes the Five Moral Precepts which gives guidance on living a moral life:

1. Do not harm any living being.
2. Do not steal.
3. Respect Each other.
4. Speak kindly of others
5. Avoid actions that are harmful to your body and mind.

Buddhists may also try to follow the Noble Eightfold Path (the Middle Way): Right understanding, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right concentration and right mindfulness.

The Virtues of the Muslim Moral Code

Respect , Charity, Honestly (telling the truth), Tolerance (accepting others as they are), Kindness, Justice, Forgiveness (moving on from a wrong someone has done you), Modestly and humility (Not being proud and arrogant), Decent speech (not hurting others by what you say), Trustworthiness (able to be relied upon), Patience (for example, not losing one’s temper when delayed)

The Five Pillars of Islam

One of the ways Muslims might try to live a moral life is to follow the Five Pillars of Islam which are five special duties...

- Shahadah - Believing and saying the words - “There is no god except Allah, Muhammad is the messenger of Allah”.
- Salat - Praying five times a day, in the correct way.
- Sawm - Not having anything to eat or drink during the month of Ramadan during daylight hours.
- Zakah - Giving 2.5% of their money to help the less fortunate.
- Hajj - This is making a pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in your life, if it can be afforded.

Muslims and the act of giving

- Not only do Muslims give for Zakah but they may also give through Khums. This is paid by Shi’a Muslims and is a 20% tax on business profits paid once a year. It is to be spent for the good of Allah. Sadaqah is voluntarily giving – more like charity. It doesn’t have to be money but can also be time.

Links to further resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDxKxvZtgo> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbDUm9yZPWIM> <https://humanists.uk/> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tpL1K8ZqrU> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ze7w3-BL3OM> <https://www.truetube.co.uk/> - excellent clips linked to this topic!

Subject: Ethics, Philosophy and World Views

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