

A Season of Exciting Rituals

3/21/26

- Today – Opportunity to give a Bible study
 - Title – “A Season of Exciting Rituals”
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- Let’s begin with a definition of a ritual
 - Some people describe a ritual as the following: “A ritual is a formal, stylized and repetitive series of actions performed in a specific order, often at set times and places. These actions are deeply symbolic and can be religious (ceremonies) or secular (daily habits) – aimed at honoring traditions, fostering community or focusing on intent.”
 - A few secular rituals
 - Morning coffee routines
 - Evening bedtime routines
 - Family meals
 - Annual vacation trips
 - Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance
 - At graduation – wearing a cap and gown and walking across a stage
 - Exchanging rings and vows at weddings
 - A few religious rituals
 - Daily prayer
 - Water baptism
 - Religious ceremonies – at regular church services
 - Religious celebrations – at festivals
 - Religious pilgrimages – visiting sacred sites
 - Which religion as more rituals? – Catholic religion or Jewish religion?
 - While Catholicism and Judaism are both considered highly ritualistic, they express their rituals differently. While some observers suggest Catholicism seems “more” ritualistic due to the visible and ornate ceremonies, Judaism’s daily-life-based rituals are often considered more numerous and integrated into everyday existence.
 - I seek to recognize the various rituals & to support a person’s right to practice their ritual
 - It is my perspective that the Catholic and Jewish religions have more rituals than many Church of God congregations – I support their freedom of choice to follow the rituals of their conscience.
 - It is my perspective that many branches of the Church of God have more rituals than our congregation – I support their freedom of choice to follow the rituals of their conscience.
 - I know that there are members of our congregation who follow different rituals – I support your freedom of choice to follow the rituals of your conscience.
 - And now our congregation is entering the spring season, when many of us will be following a few rituals that are bunched together.
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