

## Children of Abraham: A Pastoral Formation Workshop

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### Credit:

While usually not-for-credit, spiritual and pastoral formation workshops may be taken for one credit on a pass/fail basis. If a student has registered for credit and attended the workshop, the last day to drop the credit requirement is three days after the conclusion of the workshop. After that time, failure to complete the workshop requirements by the instructor's due date will result in an "F" on one's transcript. There is no tuition refund.

One hour of graduate academic credit will be awarded for completion of the stated requirements.

Objectives: After completing the activities required for this workshop it is expected that the participant will:

- Be able to describe the view that Judaism, Christianity, and Islam each have of their relationship to the biblical patriarch Abraham.
- Be able to describe elements of the three faiths which they hold in common and which have a potentially unifying quality.
- Be able to discuss differences among the three faiths which will always render them distinct from one another.
- Be able to give at least a cursory account of the historical trajectory of each of the three faiths.

### Required Activities:

Viewing: Video Lectures by Brother Zachary  
Children of Abraham (Parts 1, 2, and 3) on Youtube presented by Mark Dowd

Reading: Due to lack of access to the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library and the Scholar Shop during this emergency students will select their own reading assignment. They are required to read a scholarly book on one or all of the three faiths of at least 150 pages in length.

Writing: 1) Write a four page review of the book you read. A book review should

- Describe the author's purpose and intentions in writing.
- Discuss the author's qualifications to write on the subject.
- Identify the central arguments or assertions put forward by the author.

- Critique each argument or assertion:
  - What is the evidence offered to support it?
  - What is the quality of the evidence?
  - Do you agree with the argument or assertion?
  - On what do you base your agreement or disagreement?
- Identify for whom, if anyone, this book would be useful or helpful?
- Identify how the author might have improved the book
- What more needs to be done in terms of studying the subject at hand?

2) Develop and submit a three page outline for a parish adult education activity on the subject of the three Abrahamic faiths and their relationship to one another.

3) Write a three page paper on how this workshop has affected you in terms of feelings about the three faiths, your own faith, and the relationship of these faiths to one another.

The written work should be submitted by email to Brother Zachary

**DUE DATE: WRITTEN WORK IS DUE ON MAY 1, 2020**

Below is a list of books which would be good to read if you are able to obtain them. Check your local libraries and bookstores as well.

Armstrong, Karen. *Islam: A Short History*. New York: Modern Library, 2000. BP50 .A69 2000

DeLange, NRM. *An Introduction to Judaism*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000. BM561 .D378 2000

Feiler, Bruce F. *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths*. New York: Harper Perennial, 2005 BS580.A3 F45 2005

Hinze, Bradford E. and Irfan A. Omar. *Heirs of Abraham: The Future of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian Relations*. Maryknoll, NY, Orbis Books: 2005. BX1787 .H45 2005

Levenson, John Douglas. *Inheriting Abraham : the legacy of the patriarch in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012. Available as Ebook or Print Book BS580.A3 L483 2012

Lodahl Michael E. *Claiming Abraham : Reading the Bible and the Qur'an Side by Side*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2010 BS580.A3 L63 2010

Peters, F.E. *The Children of Abraham : Judaism, Christianity, Islam*. Princeton University Press. 2008. Saint Meinrad Library Ebook, BM157 .P47 1982

Powell, Matthew T. and Bradley Beach. *Interpreting Abraham: Journeys to Moriah*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014. Available as Ebook or in print. BS1238.S24 I58 2014

Salkin, Jeffrey A. *The Gods are broken! : the hidden legacy of Abraham*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2013. Ebook

Solomon, Norman; Richard Harries, and Timothy Winter *Abraham's children : Jews, Christians, and Muslims in conversation*. New York: T&T Clark, 2005. BR127 .A27 2005

Trible, Phyllis and Letty M. Russell. *Hagar, Sarah, and their children : Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006. BS580.H24 H34 2006