Discussion Questions Part B:

*Invitation to a Tri-Faith Neighborhood*

1. Rev. Anderson refers to a text (Matthew 22:36-39) in which Jesus, having been asked, “What is the greatest commandment?” responds: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind…and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”


Google “hospitality in Judaism,” “hospitality in Christianity,” and “hospitality in Islam.” What did you find?

2. How does Anderson suggest Christians can demonstrate “love for one’s neighbor?” What are some different opinions among Christians, as to how one demonstrates love for neighbor?

3. Regular participants in Tri-Faith frequently express the conviction that their faith is “stronger” or “deeper” as a result of their participation in Tri-Faith activities. Does this surprise you? Why or why not? What do you think would happen to you if you participated in Tri-Faith?

4. Do you agree with Dr. Mohiuddin when he says that the descendants of Abraham all worship the same God? Why or why not?

5. Would a Tri-Faith Initiative be possible in your community? Who would the partners be? Do you think it could benefit the community? If so, how?

6. If you think a shared campus for Jews, Christians and Muslims is not feasible in your community, discuss the barriers that exist. Then try to think of potential ideas for a permanent association to sponsor the kind of shared study or fellowship that is occurring in Omaha. Do opportunities already exist in your community for meeting people from other religious traditions?

7. Do you think it would be possible to expand Tri-Faith to include more religions than Judaism, Christianity and Islam? What are the advantages of expanding this project beyond the three Abrahamic faith traditions?

8. Bob Freeman, who is Jewish, tells a story about how a Muslim taught him that he could find God anyplace, even in a church. Do you have an interfaith experience that surprised you?

For Expanded Study:
Name all the religions you know of that are practiced by citizens in your community. Do you personally know any people who practice a religion other than your own? Think about how you might increase your understanding of other religions. Some resources to help you are: the Pluralism Project [http://pluralism.org/](http://pluralism.org/) and the Parliament of World Religions [www.parliamentofreligions.org](http://www.parliamentofreligions.org).

Anderson refers to a text known as The Great Commission, which says “go…and make disciples of all the nations” (Mt. 28:19). Some of the Christians who talk to Rev. Anderson about Tri-Faith are worried about obeying this command if they follow the rule not to try to convert other Tri-Faith participants. What do you think? How does one “make disciples?” What do the Jewish and Muslim traditions say about trying to convert others?

Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father, except through me” (John 14:6). Elsewhere he says, “I have other sheep who are not of this fold” (John 10:16). Christians have debated for centuries about whether or not Christianity is the only path to God. The idea of exclusivity raises the question of whose version of Christianity would be the acceptable one—that of Southern Baptists? Roman Catholics? Presbyterians? Their theologies are very different. Some people think that “the Way of Jesus” refers to a specific set of beliefs; others think it refers to a way of life. What do you think “the Way of Jesus” refers to?

**Additional Resources:**
- Temple Israel: [http://www.templeisrael-ne.org/](http://www.templeisrael-ne.org/)
- American Institute of Islamic Studies and Culture: [http://www.aiisc.org/](http://www.aiisc.org/)