Group Activity

A Conversation with the Founders
(On-stage Together for the First Time)

The Set-up: Today is a very special occasion. Ms. Treadaire has defied the laws of time, life and death and managed to get the founders of the three major religions of the Middle East, Abraham (A), Jesus (J) and Mohammed (M), to appear at Casey Hall here at Carmel High School. What can I say; I just have that kind of juice. Ms. Treadaire has prepared a list of questions she will ask the founders during the discussion. I'll try to get you in to see them.

Directions: Step into the roles of the three founders. Prepare a dialogue for each of the founders that respond to the questions listed below. Be sure to include as many facts, examples and details from your study of global history as you can. You may use your notes and textbooks to help you. For each question, you must have a response from at least two of the founders. Your responses should show an answer to the question and knowledge of the basic facts about the religion. Please write your responses neatly and clearly.

Below is a sample of the format you will need to follow:

Q: Gentlemen, thank you for visiting Carmel High School. As you probably know, there is a conflict in the world today between the United States and Al-Qaeda terrorists. Many people see this war as a war between Christians and Muslims. How does each of you feel about it?

J: All war is wrong. If people would learn to "turn the other cheek," they would be able to live together peacefully.

M: War is justified if it is in the defense of Islam. The terrorists believe they are defending Islam, but I do not agree with them.

Questions to have the founders answer:

1. You have founded three of the most popular religions in the world. Were your ideas always so popular? Why or why not?
2. Tell us about the rules of your religion. Can you explain why you think rules are so important?
3. How are your religious beliefs similar?
4. How are your religious beliefs different?
5. If I or my wonderful students wanted to find out more about your religions, how could we get more information—other than internet sources?
6. If we wanted to see the places where you developed your religion, where would we go?
7. What are two practices or rituals that are associated with the practice of your religion?
8. Can you give two reasons why people should convert to the religion you created?
9. How do your religions affect the way people live?
10. Why should followers of your religions get along with each other today?