



STUDY GUIDE

LECTURE: WHAT IS YOUR RELIGION AND WHY?

DELIVERED: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 2026

KEYNOTE:

STUDENTS REGIONAL MINISTER
RODNEY MUHAMMAD

SUMMARY

Student In The Ministry Joseph Muhammad opens with an insightful analysis of the Nation of Islam's fight song, examining its prophetic meaning, spiritual power, historical message, and call for Black people to rise from mental and spiritual death.

The keynote address by Student Regional Minister Rodney Muhammad examines the profound questions: "What is your religion?" and "Why is that your religion?" He explores the origin and purpose of religion, the history of the Bible and Qur'an, the difference between divine guidance and man-made tradition, and how true religion must transform human life.

This lecture encourages us to study, think deeply, know ourselves, overcome division, and live according to the life-giving teachings of the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad as represented by the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan.

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What is the purpose of a fight song?

Answer: A fight song inspires enthusiasm, strengthens morale, unites people, and gives them renewed energy during a difficult challenge. Student Minister Joseph Muhammad explained that the Nation of Islam's fight song spiritually strengthens us for the struggle before us.

2. Why must we understand that we are engaged in a spiritual and mental war?

Answer: If we do not recognize that we are at war, we may fail to prepare ourselves. The struggle takes place not only in the world around us but also within our own minds, habits, fears, and weaknesses.

3. What does "Rise, ye Muslim" mean?

Answer: It means more than physically standing up. It represents a mental and spiritual resurrection from ignorance, self-hatred, dependency, and an undeveloped condition.

4. Why is reclaiming one's name important?

Answer: Reclaiming one's name helps a person begin discovering who they truly are. The "X" represents the unknown identity, while studying and developing oneself prepares a person to receive and live by the attributes of God.

5. What do the sun, moon, and stars symbolize in the fight song?

Answer: The sun represents life, light, power, and freedom. The moon represents equality and reflected light in darkness. The stars represent justice, vast human potential, and the inheritance Allah has prepared for His people.

Study Guide 2: Keynote Speaker

Featuring Delaware Valley Student Regional Minister Rodney Muhammad

1. What question did the Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad present to the Nation of Islam?

Answer: He asked, "What is your religion?" and followed it with the deeper question, "Why?" The second question forces a person to examine the reason behind their religious identity.

2. Why is the question "Why?" so important?

Answer: "Why?" takes a person beneath the surface and leads them to examine the root, origin, purpose, and evidence of what they believe.

3. What does religion mean in its original sense?

Answer: Religion involves being connected or bound to a set of principles, values, virtues, and ways of living. It should guide a person's conduct and relationship with God.

4. Why should a person know who started their religion?

Answer: Knowing the origin of a religion helps a person determine whether it came from divine revelation, a prophet, tradition, or human invention.

5. What historical question should Christians examine about Christianity?

Answer: They should examine whether Jesus taught a religion called Christianity, because Jesus did not use that name or establish Christianity as it is known today.

6. What point was made about the history of the Bible?

Answer: The Bible did not originally begin in the English language. Its history includes translations, religious institutions, political power, and the work of individuals such as John Wycliffe and King James.

7. How did the Nation of Islam help popularize the reading of the Qur'an?

Answer: The Nation of Islam made the Qur'an more available and encouraged its members to study it. At the same time, the Bible was used extensively during the early development of the Nation of Islam.

8. What happens when religion becomes divided into sects and denominations?

Answer: Division can cause people to fight over names, traditions, and interpretations instead of seeking the central truth that should unite humanity.

9. How can nature help us understand the meaning of true religion?

Answer: Animals and other parts of creation follow the nature and purpose given to them by Allah. Their behavior illustrates that true religion is connected to fulfilling one's created purpose.

10. What is the difference between religious ritual and religious principle?

Answer: A ritual is an outward practice that can help people remember a principle. However, the ritual is not the final goal. The principle must eventually become part of a person's character and daily conduct.

11. How can we judge whether a religion is successful?

Answer: We can judge it by its effect on human life. True religion should improve people morally, spiritually, mentally, socially, and materially.

12. What responsibility does a believer have after receiving divine knowledge?

Answer: A believer must use that knowledge to transform themselves, help uplift their people, overcome ignorance, build productive institutions, and live as an example of the truth they have received.