## **Religion Overview**

The five major world religions:

- <u>Judaism- Jews- monotheistic- Yahweh/Jehovah</u>
- Islam- Muslims- monotheistic- Alah
- Christianity- Christians- monotheistic- God
- Buddhism- Buddhists- atheistic
- <u>H</u>induism- Hindus- polytheistic- Brahma, Shiva, Vishnu

Monotheism refers to ONE god(s), whereas Polytheism refers to MANY god(s). Atheism refers to belief in NO god(s).

## Religion and Culture

Religions <u>help people understand the world</u> around them.

Religions are used to <u>explain things people</u> <u>cannot</u> about science, nature, and life.
Religions are a source of <u>moral guidelines for behavior</u>.

So why study world religions?
To see historical significance of that religion in the world.
To better understand the people in the world who accept that religion.

How do you study a world religion? Examine the historical development. Identify the core teachings.