

BreakThru

From Catechism to Christ

THE SEASONS OF THE CHURCH YEAR

LEARNING EVENT MAKE-UP

INTRODUCTION TO THE CHURCH YEAR

Open your Lutheran Handbook to pp. 76-77 and read about the seasons of the church year. Then, take a close look at the diagram of the church year on pp. 78-79. Then, answer the questions below.

What season of the church year are we currently in?

What is the primary focus of this season of the church year?

How many days are there in the season of Easter?

What are the four main observances that take place during Holy Week?

What is the liturgical color for the season of Epiphany?

How long does the season of Christmas last?



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Erin Haligowski

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

ehaligowski@epiphanydayton.org

937-266-7052

DISCUSSION: WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT?

Today, we've looked at a lot of the things that we use to help us in worship: how we organize our time into different seasons, how the seasons signify different things, how we use different actions and symbols to match the meaning of the season, and how we use different things to also say something about the season. But what is the most important thing about how we worship together?

Maybe... just maybe... the most important thing is that we love and care about one another, even if we get all the movements wrong or the colors wrong or the words wrong. These seasons and actions are useful, but they're not the most important thing. In fact, some people throughout history have had some pretty strong things to say about that.

Open your Bibles and read **Amos 5:21-24** and **Luke 11:42-44**.

In these readings, what traditions are being kept? What are people doing?

What is important to the people keeping the traditions? What do they think is important?

What are they not doing, according to the prophet Amos and Jesus? What have they missed?

What traditions are important to us today? What traditions are we careful to follow?

Why are they important to us? How would people react if they changed?

Are our traditions important? Would we still be able to do what God calls us to do if our traditions changed?

What would be a good reason for our traditions to change? What would be a good reason for us to change?

With all of our traditions, we need to remember what's most important about them: that they help us to love God and our neighbor. If our traditions stop helping us to do that, then we need to take a hard look at the traditions—or a deep look at ourselves.