

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

From Chief Joseph, Nez Percés'

The Way of the American Indian

"If the white man wants to live in peace with the Indian, he can live in peace.... Treat all men alike. Give them all the same law. Give them all an even chance to live and grow. All men were made by the same Great Spirit Chief. They are all brothers. The Earth is the mother of all people, and all people should have equal rights upon it.....Let me be a free man, free to travel, free to stop, free to work, free to trade....Where I choose my own teachers, free to follow the religion of my fathers, free to think and talk and act for myself, and I will obey every law, or submit to the penalty."

Red Cloud(Makpipyah-luta) , April, 1870

...I am poor and naked, but I am the chief of the nation. We do not want riches but we do want to train our children right. Riches would do us no good. We could not take them with us to the other world. We do not want riches. We want peace and love.

Sagoyewapha. "Red Jacket" - Seneca

Brother, you say there is but one way to worship and serve the Great Spirit. If there is but one religion, why do you white people differ so much about it? Why not all agree, as you can all read the Book?

1. Choose 5 of the principles of the American Indian that you think are the most important. Explain what they mean to you in your own words in a sentence or two.
2. Under each of the 5 principles that you chose, briefly explain why you chose that specific principles as being more important than others.
3. How many of the 20 principles do you live your life by (give me a number out of 20)? List the ones you live by (you can just put the number of the principle).
4. Which one is the most important to you? Explain.
5. According to Black Elk, Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux, why is "everything as Indian does in a circle"? What do you think this means?
6. List some of the principles Indian children were encouraged to develop.
7. According to Falt-iron of the Maza Blaska Oglala Sioux, what is "Wakan-Tanka"?
8. What is Chief Joseph of the Nez Percés pleading for in this article? How does he feel about living with the white man?
9. How does Red Cloud feel about the accumulation of wealth?
10. What does Red Jacket, question about the white man's religion?