

## Forward to "A Chosen Faith" By Rev. Robert Fulghum

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Here's part of a conversation in a \_\_\_\_\_Noun:

"Mr. Fulghum, is it true that you're a \_\_\_\_\_A profession?"

"Yes."

"Where's your church?"

"We're \_\_\_\_\_Verb - Base Form in it."

"But this is a bookstore and it's a Friday."

"Yes, but you might also choose to see it as a cathedral of the human spirit--a storehouse consecrated to the full spectrum of human experience. Just about every idea we've ever had is in here somewhere. A \_\_\_\_\_Noun containing great thinking is a sacred space."

"Really? Just what kind of \_\_\_\_\_A profession are you?"

"Unitarian Universalist."

"And you hold services in bookstores on Fridays? You're putting me on."

"No, but I am giving you an example of how Unitarian Universalists think. More than anything else, our religion is defined by an attitude. An open-minded point of view. About everything and anything. What we have most in common is an uncommon way of looking at the obvious. A \_\_\_\_\_Noun is not just a specific \_\_\_\_\_Noun, but also a way of looking at the building you're in at the moment. A minister is not just a person who stands in a pulpit and preaches on Sunday mornings, but also the way some people engage the world. A religion is not contained in a single book; there's something religious in almost any book."

"OK, but I've seen a building in my neighborhood with a sign that says, 'Unitarian Universalist Church' on it and there are a lot of cars parked around it on Sunday mornings. Looks like a \_\_\_\_\_ Adjective church to me."

"Of course. We come together in community and do many things any religious community does--and Sunday mornings are a culturally convenient time to meet. But we also come together during the rest of the week."

"To do what?"

"To share ideas, \_\_\_\_\_ Verb - Base Form political action, work on projects of benefit to the larger community in which we live, and hear speakers on a broad range of topics. We enjoy and need the companionship of like-minded people."

"Mr. Fulghum, I've read all your books. Is what you write a sample of what Unitarian Universalists believe"?

"Yes and no. I would expect and hope that many Unitarian Universalists would not agree with everything I think and write."

"You mean there's no party line - no dogma?"

"Yes and no. We agree that individuals must work out their own religious \_\_\_\_\_ Noun. We agree that we will disagree on those conclusions. We agree to respect those differences. We agree to learn from one another through dialogue about our beliefs. We agree on a process and the tools to be used in the process."

"Give me some examples of the tools."

"The principles of democracy, integrity, continuing education, ad individual responsibility, to name a few."

"It sounds more like NPR or PBS more than a \_\_\_\_\_ Noun."

