



Barrier: Claiming “God is on our side...”

Overcome by: Knowing that the same God created the universe... and the great planet earth (which has no ‘sides.’)

Barrier: Living by image rather than integrity.

Overcome by: Remembering that the outward appearance is not the work of the heart.

Barrier: Cultural customs

Overcome by: Respect. For example, dividing men and women in prayers in the mosque is because of the position of prostrating oneself. So, modesty is important.

Barrier: DENIAL OF THE PROBLEM—There is no danger, no threat, no destruction.

Overcome by: Teams of researchers, as happened in Antarctica. The hole in the Ozone wasn’t a Christian problem but a human one.

~Sal

I think fear of the unknown can become a barrier to collaboration, especially in local interfaith endeavors. As with any fear, the most effective way to overcome it, is to learn the "why" behind the way I am responding in fear. It is up to me to learn about the other traditions through building relationships and educational opportunities. Another key barrier is not knowing, or one might say ignorance about a differing tradition. Rather than assumptions and popular cultural opinions, learning the real reasons behind a tradition helps me to overcome personal and societal barriers.

~Janita

Barriers to interfaith collaboration often include misunderstandings, historical grievances, and rigid dogmatism. Overcoming these barriers requires building trust, which takes time and effort. It also means focusing on shared goals and being willing to learn from each other. The Bahá’í principle of consultation—a process where everyone’s voice is heard, and the group seeks unity—offers a great framework for working through challenges and

finding solutions together. Addressing systemic issues such as economic inequality and political corruption also creates a foundation for interfaith collaboration to flourish.

~Katrina