

## » Spiritual journey

# Baha'i Faith helps teen stay on a moral path

**Name:** Samineh Hiebert, 16

**Faith:** Baha'i

**Work:** I am a student at Bob Jones High School

**How you describe God:** For me, God is unknowable. We can't sense God, and he is incomprehensible in his essence. God works in odd ways and always knows what's best for us, even if we don't.

**How your faith affects your daily life:** The Baha'i Faith has played a big role in my life and is a big part of my day-to-day activities. Every day we have to make choices, both small and big, such as opening the door for someone or helping a friend.

The faith has really helped me form a solid core. I know that if I'm ever confronted to do something that isn't very moral I can always think of the faith to help me from straying.

**How you're studying your faith:** Last summer, I participated in a youth summer service project called Project Badi, which is hosted by the Magdalene Carney Baha'i Institute in southern Florida.

During this three-week period we learned how to teach the Baha'i Faith and how to do children's classes, which are classes offered to children to teach them about virtues and morals.



**Samineh Hiebert holds grass she has been growing for Nawruz, the Baha'i New Year, which was celebrated this week. The grass symbolizes the new life of springtime.** (The Huntsville Times/Robin Conn)

The project consisted of about 30 youth, all of whom were focused on making the world a better place. It was really rewarding.

It was a great experience, and I can't wait to go back this summer.

**Advice for anyone who is discouraged:** Pray. I've always found that when you are going through a hard time, praying always

# Journey

Continued from page C1

helps you get through it.

**A favorite verse:** "backbiting quencheth the light of the heart, and extinguisheth the life of the soul." by Bahá'u'lláh, "Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh," CXXV, p.265.

I believe backbiting is one of the big causes of disunity. I see it daily in school: A group of friends will be talking and having fun, and then as soon as one of them leaves the others will start demeaning the other one. It's terrible. I wouldn't want to be friends with people who degrade me the minute I leave the room.

*conversations about faith and personal philosophy from a variety of people. Please send nominations for this feature to [kay.campbell@htimes.com](mailto:kay.campbell@htimes.com), 256-532-4320.*

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