



Questions for Classroom Discussion

A Timely Change

- **What are key elements that an effective calendar must have?**
 - ⇒ Consider how a calendar must properly align the seasons and follow the rotation of the earth and its revolution around the sun
 - ⇒ Consider the need for it to be as simple as possible so that nobody has trouble knowing the current day, week, and month (or figuring out when future days, weeks, and months will occur)

- **What are the main reasons to keep using our current calendar (the “Gregorian Calendar”)?**
 - ⇒ Consider how it “works” extremely well, properly predicting the seasons and aligning with the rotation of the earth and its revolution around the sun
 - ⇒ Consider that once you learn to use it (in early elementary school), it is very little effort... so there’s really no need to change it or make adjustments
 - ⇒ Consider how it would be an impossible task to convince everyone in every country to use a new calendar, not to mention how much work it would be to switch things over

- **What are the main reasons to reform our current calendar?**
 - ⇒ Consider how the calendar is complicated with months of varying days, and weeks that always start on different dates, and holidays that can be on different weekdays and dates
 - ⇒ Consider how the proposed alternative—the International Fixed Calendar—is a much easier layout that still measures the passing of time equally well
 - ⇒ Consider how it is not the first time the calendar has had to be “updated”... nearly 500 years ago, an entire week was skipped when the Gregorian Calendar replaced the Julian Calendar