

Connection Group Homework

1. Why do you believe people have so much more trouble accepting the historicity of Jesus, even though there is more evidence for the life of Jesus than for most figures we know of in ancient history?
2. How are fulfilled prophecies of the Old Testament Scripture confirmation of Jesus as Messiah? Do you find this compelling? Why or why not?
3. What do you find to be the most significant evidence for Jesus being the Son of God? What do you find most difficult to believe about this claim?
4. Why is Jesus rising from the dead such compelling evidence for the claims of Jesus? Why do you think people have problems with the historical accounts that he rose from the dead? How would you counter these arguments?
5. What do you personally find to be the most compelling evidence for the claims of Jesus as Messiah, Son of God and Savior of the world?



Part 3: Can Smart People Believe in Jesus?

Pastor Todd Hudnall
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There is Compelling Evidence

1. Jesus is the most significant and influential _____ in history.

“We have better documentation for Jesus than for the founder of any other ancient religion.” – **Edwin Yamauchi**

2. Jesus is the _____ of Scripture.

John 1:41 (NKJ) He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ).

Matthew 16:16 (NLT) Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Luke 24:25-27 (NLT) Then Jesus said to them, “You are such foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn’t it clearly predicted by the prophets that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his time of glory?” Then Jesus quoted passages from the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining what all the Scriptures said about himself.

1. Jesus is the _____ of God.

John 8:58 (NKJ) Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

John 10:36 (NKJ) “I am the Son of God.”

John 14:9 (MSG) “To see me is to see the Father.”

Mark 14:61-62 (MSG) The Chief Priest tried again, this time asking, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed?” Jesus said, “Yes, I am.”

Either Jesus was...

A _____ man

A _____ man

Or the _____ man

1. Jesus is the Resurrected _____.

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (NLT) I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me—that Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles. After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now.

2. Jesus is the _____ of the World.

1 John 4:14 (NKJ) Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.