

Baggage Claim Part 2 How Can Jesus be the Only Way?

Message to Conversation Guide

1. Discuss the primary verses listed below that present Jesus as the only way to have a relationship with God and obtain salvation.

John 14:6

6 Jesus answered, “I am **the way** and **the truth** and **the life**. **No one** comes to the Father **except through me**. NIV

1 Timothy 2:5-6

5 For there is one God **and one mediator** between God and mankind, **the man Christ Jesus**, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. NIV

John 10:9

9 **I am the gate; whoever enters through me** will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. NIV

Acts 4:12

12 **Salvation is found in no one else**, for there is **no other name** under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. NIV

Acts 16:31

31 They replied, **“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved**—you and your household.”

Romans 10:8-10

8 But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: 9 **If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.** 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. NIV (see [Phil. 2:9-11](#))

2. Discuss the gradual drift away from believing Jesus is the only way to know God and have eternal life in churches in America.

The Pew Forum found that **57 percent of evangelical Christians believed that “Many religions can lead to eternal life,” while 70 percent of the general public held this belief.** U.S. Religious Landscape Survey, p. 58

3. What are some of the fundamental differences between Islam and Christianity, Buddhism and Christianity, and Hinduism and Christianity?

Hindus believe in an impersonal God (Brahman). Hindus believe that people are divine but are ignorant of their divinity and they receive spiritual liberation by attaining knowledge of their inner divinity.

Buddhists believe that ultimate reality is achieving an impersonal state of being (nirvana). They believe that people do not have a soul and do not live forever. Spiritual liberation is discovered by the path of knowledge that leads to Nirvana.

Unlike the Christian view of the death of Jesus, most Muslims believe he was raised to Heaven without being put on the cross and God created a resemblance to appear exactly like Jesus who was crucified instead of Jesus, and he ascended bodily to Heaven, there to remain until his Second Coming in the End days. They do not believe Jesus is God but one of the prophets.

4. Discuss these logical fallacies that claim all religions are the same:

- **Argument: AD HOMINEM**

Says “Anyone who believes that Christianity is true and every other view is wrong is arrogant. Therefore, Christianity is false.”

Trying to show someone’s view is false by attacking personal character.

Response: The truth of a view is independent of the character of the person who holds it.

Argument: Religions are culturally relative.

If you had been born in Pakistan, you’d likely be a muslim. But if you’d been born in Ireland, you’d probably be a Catholic.

False conclusion “Because religious beliefs are culturally relative, they are not objectively true.”

This is an example of the genetic fallacy, trying to invalidate a view by showing how a person came to hold the view.

Response: This is a fallacy because the truth of a view is independent of how a person came to believe it.