

THE PROBLEM OF GOD

PROBLEM OF GOD, PART 6: IS JESUS THE ONLY WAY?

The culture says there are many paths to truth and to God. Christianity claims that Jesus alone is the way to God. Aren't Christians just narrow-minded bigots when it comes to other religions? How can Jesus be the only way?

BIG IDEA: It's logically contradictory to believe that divergent paths lead to the same place.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did you leave home? Would you change anything if you could? Why or why not?
2. What do you think about the statistic that "nearly half of all American adults believe it doesn't matter what religious faith you follow because they all teach the same lessons?"
3. Watch the Curiosity Collective video titled "Is Christianity too narrow?" Was there any-thing in the video that connected with you? What was compelling or intriguing?
4. In the video, Corey discusses the statement that "All religions are the same." This statement is often an attempt to be humble and tolerant, but he goes on to claim it is arrogant and dis-respectful to every religion. Why would that be?
5. Every religion is narrow and makes exclusive claims. What is the difference between being narrow and narrow minded? What exclusive claims do you hold?
6. Why do you think so many people, from Oprah to Mahatma Ghandi to Ricky Bobby, want to believe that all paths lead to the same place?
7. *With your Bible or Bible App, read [John 14:1-6](#) and [Galatians 3:26-29](#).*

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going." "No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. *[John 14:1-6 \(NLT\)](#)*

For you are all children^[a] of God through faith in Christ Jesus. And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. There is no longer Jew or Gentile,^[c] slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you. *[Galatians 3:26-29 \(NLT\)](#)*

8. Remember that Paul in Galatians was writing to people who were very different from him. Paul was a Jew. They weren't. How does Paul's writing in Galatians help us see that Jesus' invitation is all-inclusive?
9. In what way is holding an exclusive faith position different than denying others the right to believe, and practice what they believe?
10. Discuss as a group how cultural pluralism differs from metaphysical pluralism. Which is right for a Christian to fight for, and which would render Christianity's central message invalid?
11. We learned on Sunday that more worldviews than Christianity claim exclusivity. In what way is tolerance offensive, actually counteracting the peace-making effect it is trying to achieve?
12. If you haven't accepted Christ's invitation of forgiveness and grace (which is extended to everyone), what's holding you back? Which objections remain?

MOVING FORWARD

God provided a way for everyone to find their way back to him. Most religions boil down to humanity trying to reach God, but Christianity is about God reaching humanity.

WEEKLY READING

This week, spend some time reading and reflecting on John 14:1-6, Galatians 3:26-29.