

Sermon Study Guide 6/21/20

Stuff Christians Believe (Season 2) | "We Believe that Jesus is God" | Mark 3:20-35

These questions were written for discussion with a few others around a kitchen table. Keeping the group small will encourage vulnerability and honest self-evaluation; 3-4 is ideal. Life Group leaders are encouraged to organize their Life Groups into smaller "table" groups of 3-4 (or perhaps three couples) to discuss the questions, and then share a few thoughts and prayer with the larger Life Group.

Families may also choose to use this as a family discussion guide around their kitchen tables. If you are using this study guide alone, we encourage you to journal your responses and consider discussing them with a close friend in Christ.

1. Article 4 of LakeView's Statement of Faith says: "We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate." Slowly and thoughtfully read and reflect on this statement. What are the most challenging concepts to understand? Do you believe each concept is "essential" to the Christian faith? Explain.
2. Human beings often fall into the habit of categorizing things. When is categorizing helpful? When is it not? Why is it difficult to categorize Jesus?
3. C. S. Lewis's classic argument, "Lord, Liar or Lunatic," follows this logic:
 - A. If Jesus was not Lord, he was either a liar or a lunatic.
 - B. Jesus was neither a liar nor a lunatic.
 - C. Therefore, Jesus is Lord.

Lewis claims that Jesus cannot be placed in the category of "good moral teacher," but must be either a lunatic, a liar, or the Lord. Do you agree/disagree? Why can't Jesus be just a good moral teacher or a great humanitarian role model?

4. Do you live as though you know Jesus? This past week, how many thoughts did you have, words did you speak, or decisions did you make that actually included God in your process?
5. "Those who believe in Jesus are part of the family of God." What is the difference between being a guest and being a member of the family? Where do you see yourself on that spectrum? Where would you like to be? How can you get there?