

Small Group Curriculum

Still Wondering • Week 3 • Is Jesus Really the Only Way to God?

We live in a culture that deeply values personal experience, individual perspective, and the freedom to choose one's own path. Many people sincerely believe that different spiritual roads can all lead to the same destination. Because of that, when Christians say Jesus is the way to God, it can raise honest questions and strong reactions.

Is that claim too narrow? Is it loving? Can one path really be true for everyone?

These are important questions worth exploring with humility and openness. Tonight is an opportunity to consider what Jesus actually claimed, why Christians believe it, and whether the idea of one way to God might be less about exclusion and more about invitation.

REMINDERS

- [Child Dedications class](#): Child dedication is a public commitment that parents make that they will raise their child in a way that honors God and points their child to Him. If interested in the upcoming child dedications on Mother's Day, May 10th, please sign up for the class on **April 30th on Zoom at 1pm or 7:30pm**.
- [Awakening 201](#): a three-week membership class specifically crafted to guide you through a clear and practical pathway to growing as a follower of Jesus. **Sunday, May 17th, 24th, & 31st, 11:15am - 12:30pm**.
- All upcoming events can be found [here](#).

ICEBREAKER

What is one message or slogan our culture repeats so often that people tend to accept it without really examining it? Why do you think it is so popular?

Examples: "Follow your heart" "You do you" "Everything happens for a reason" "Be true to yourself" "You can be anything you want" "Self-made success"

Follow-up:

Have you ever believed one of these ideas, then later started to question it?

AWAKENING

INTRODUCTION

From the beginning, God revealed Himself as the one true Creator. Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning God created...”

Humanity was created to know and worship the one true God. But in the garden, Adam and Eve chose autonomy over trust. They wanted knowledge on their own terms rather than dependence on God. Since then, humanity has continued trying to create its own truth, its own morality, and its own paths to meaning.

People who are resistant to God or deny their need for Him often do not say it directly. More often, it comes out through common phrases and attitudes like these:

- **“I’ve got this.”** I can handle life on my own without needing God.
- **“I just need to work harder.”** My effort alone can solve what is broken.
- **“I’ll pray later.”** I do not need Him right now.
- **“As long as I’m a good person, that’s enough.”** Morality can replace a relationship with God.
- **“Everything will work itself out.”** I do not need surrender, repentance, or faith.

Yet Scripture consistently teaches there is one God, and one mediator between God and humanity, Jesus Christ.

Jesus did not claim to be one option among many. He claimed to be the way, the truth, and the life. That claim may challenge culture, but it is not arrogant. It is an invitation. God has not hidden Himself or left people guessing. He has made a clear way through Christ.

Notes for Small Group Leaders

3 Takeaways for the group:

- Help the group see that Jesus is making a personal claim about Himself as the only way to God
- Keep the focus on Jesus and His invitation, not debates about other religions or arguments
- Point the group toward the truth that God’s plan in Jesus is both exclusive in claim and inclusive in invitation

If conversation gets tense:

→ Bring it back to Jesus’ identity, not other religions

If conversation gets abstract:

→ Ask, “What does this mean for your life personally?”

If conversation gets quiet:

→ Re-read the verse slowly and ask, “What word stands out to you?”

Goal of the night:

Not to win an argument, but to *help people see Jesus clearly*

AWAKENING

DISCUSSION

Read [John 14:5-21](#).

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

- In Jesus’ answers to the disciples’ questions, what claims is he making? What are the disciples confused about?
- Why does our culture often see exclusive truth claims as offensive?
- Why do many people assume “all paths lead to God”?
- What is Jesus inviting people into with this statement?

Read [Acts 4:1-22](#).

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

- In verses 1-12, how were people reacting to Peter and John? In verses 13-22, what were their reactions?
- Why do you think people or yourself struggle with the idea that Jesus is the only way?
- What are some things people today trust in to be “right with God” or to feel okay spiritually?
- What does it mean that salvation is found in Jesus alone?
- How does self-reliance sometimes compete with surrender to Jesus? Or where in life do you most want control rather than trust?
- In verses 18-22, what is Peter and John’s response to being asked not to teach and speak? How does their response challenge or encourage you?

Read [1 Timothy 2:1-6](#).

“There is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.”

- What does it mean that Jesus is the one who brings us to God?
- Why is it good news that Jesus is a “mediator” for us?
- What does it mean personally for you to trust Jesus as the way to God?
- How can Christians communicate truth without sounding arrogant?

A W A K E N I N G

RESPONSE

As we've been talking about Jesus being the only way, it can get reduced to what Christianity is *against* or what it *doesn't believe*.

But at its core, Christianity was never meant to be defined by opposition, but by proclamation of the good news of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return.

Since the beginning, humanity has wanted many ways to God or gods or ways to save ourselves. But God has lovingly provided one saving way through Himself.

There is one true God, and Jesus is the only way to God.

If that is true, then believing it is not divisive—it is faithful.

It is not arrogant—it is surrender.

It is not judgmental—it is hope.

What support or encouragement do you need from one another in your group to believe Jesus' words and lovingly share them with others?

PRAYER

Read Jesus' words in John 14:25-27 as a blessing over your group.

"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Take prayer requests and pray for one another.