

**LIFEGROUP STUDY**  
**REAL GOOD QUESTIONS:**  
**“How Can Christianity Claim It’s Right and All Other Faiths are Wrong?”**  
**20210502**

**PARTICIPANT NOTES**

**OVERVIEW**

Welcome back to our series, Real Good Questions. Over the weeks of this series, we’re exploring six common challenges to Christianity and how Christ followers can respond. Our challenge this week is – “How can Christianity claim it’s right and all other faiths are wrong?” Isn’t it arrogant to say we’re right and others aren’t? Aren’t all religions basically teaching the same thing anyway? In our culture that encourages inclusivity and tolerance of all views, there is a resistance to any religious claims that are exclusive or that would claim to be unique. In today’s study, we will explore how, while Christianity is narrow in its claims about Jesus being the only way to God, it is broad in its invitation that “whosoever will may come”.

**ICEBREAKER My Connections to People of Other Faiths**

Increasingly in our world today, we have first-hand connections with people from other faith backgrounds. Perhaps you work with people, or have neighbours or family friends from a different faith background than your own. **How have your connections with people of other faith backgrounds impacted your life? How have these connections helped you understand your own faith?**

**STUDY**

1. On Sunday, Pete spoke to the key reasons why Christianity can claim it is the one true faith. **What was a highlight for you from what he taught?**

In our study today, we will explore two key truths about Christianity. Christianity is *exclusive* in its claims and the teachings of Christianity are *unique*. These truths set Christianity apart from other world religions and belief systems and are the basis on which we make this claim – Jesus is the only way to God.

Our Beliefs – Salvation

We believe every person needs to be restored to life with God. Salvation is a gift from God graciously offered to humanity. It cannot be earned by any human effort. To receive this gift a person must repent, which involves turning from one’s own way to God’s way, and place their faith in the person and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. By placing one’s faith in Jesus Christ a person becomes a child of God and begins a new, eternally secure relationship with God. Salvation will be evidenced by a changed life.

## Christianity is Exclusive in Its Claims

The exclusive claims of Christianity are based on the claims Jesus made about Himself. Let's explore these claims, focusing particularly on his 3 exclusive claims in John 14:6.

READ: John 14:6

"Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.'" NLT

NOTE: "I am the way, the truth, and the life" is one of seven "I Am" statements Jesus makes about himself. In the Greek "I Am" is a very intense way of referring to oneself. It would be comparable to saying, "I myself, and only I, am." The Jews of Jesus day recognized what Jesus meant when he said these words – that he was equating himself with God (see John 8:58). In using these words, "I am" Jesus made an exclusive and unique claim about himself. He is God in the flesh.

"I am the way ..."

2. In this passage, Jesus is talking with his disciples about where he will soon be going, back to the Father. When Thomas says to him, "We have no idea where you are going, how can we know the way?" Jesus responds with this statement – "I am the way ..." **How could Jesus make this exclusive claim?**

"I am the truth ..."

3. Jesus second exclusive statement focuses on Him being our ultimate source of truth. **Why would Jesus describe himself as "the truth"?**

"I am the life."

4. Jesus' third exclusive claim, "I am the life" is a statement filled with hope and future promise. **How was Jesus able to make this claim, "I am the life"?**

## Christianity is Unique

Jesus Christ is unique in that he alone, of all who ever lived, is both God and man. In the Bible we read about the fully unified deity and humanity of Jesus.

READ: Colossians 1:15-20

**5. What do you read in these verses about the uniqueness of Jesus?**

Jesus Christ was unique in every way. From his complete deity to his perfect humanity; from his miraculous conception to his supernatural ascension; from his impeccable character to his incomparable teaching—Jesus stands above all other religious or moral teachers.

Norman Geisler: The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

**6. How does this quote from Norman Geisler help you appreciate the uniqueness of Jesus?**

**Christianity is Narrow in its Claims but Broad in Its Invitation**

“Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.” Romans 10:13 NLT

While Jesus’ teaching and claims about himself are exclusive and while Christianity is unique among other world religions, the invitation Jesus gives us to put our faith in Him is broad. It is an invitation that is open to anyone who would come.

READ: Romans 10:9-13

**7. In these verses we read about “how to be saved”. What do you notice about who this invitation is open to?**

READ: Romans 10:14-15

**8. What do these verses tell you about our mission to share the invitation, the Good News of salvation through Jesus?**

## **PRAYER**

Today let's pray for our Celebrate Recovery (CR) Ministry at Creekside. CR exists to help people find recovery from their hurts, habits and hang-ups. This group meets weekly to find Christ in their recovery journey.

- Please pray for serving our community well as we move to Zoom Large Group instead of streaming on Facebook - that we can keep the group safe and provide a place for newcomers to feel welcome.
- Please pray that those joining us would continue to seek Jesus and his healing power. Our mission is to help people experience change as they .. Follow Jesus. Love God. Love People.
- Please ask God to provide more leaders and volunteers for our ministry. He is faithful!