

When Everything is Unravelling

Hybrid Christianity

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SERMON SUMMARY

It's tempting to think you can take away core parts of Christianity and build your own faith based on a buffet of religions and worldviews. But the Jesus presented to us in the Bible doesn't leave that as an option. Jesus is either liar, lunatic or lord.

KEY VERSES

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' " John 14:6 NIV

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49434606>

1. What is a key idea you remember or question you have from Pete's sermon on Sunday about Hybrid Christianity?
2. What has been your experience with religions or worldviews outside of Christianity? Has there been a time in your life when you have wrestled with the idea of hybrid Christianity? Share your story with the group.
3. When it comes to the leading voices in word religions and world views, Jesus stands out as unique. Read John 8:48-59. What do you notice here about Jesus' claims regarding His identity? What do you notice about how the religious leaders of His day responded to Jesus' claims?
4. Jesus not only claimed His unique identity with His words, He also showed it with His actions. Read Mark 2:1-12. What do notice Jesus doing in this account that demonstrates He is God in the flesh?
5. The most powerful evidence of Jesus' uniqueness and deity is His resurrection from the dead. Read John 11:25-26 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-28. How might you use these passages to help someone who is wrestling with the uniqueness of Jesus?
6. On Sunday Pete challenged us to consider the argument from C.S. Lewis in his book, Mere Christianity - "A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." What do you think of this argument? How does it help when we consider who Jesus is?
7. How might you engage a friend or family member who believes Christianity and other religious teachings and worldviews can be mixed? What approaches do you think are not helpful? What do you think can help?

PRAYER EXERCISE

Here is part of a prayer from the Nicene Creed that affirms what we believe about Jesus. Say this prayer out loud together as a group:

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We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.