

FIVE EASY ISSUES - INTRODUCTION (Video 8:15)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Review or establish group guidelines and make introductions if needed.
2. Ask: “What kinds of moral or cultural topics do you most avoid discussing—and why?”

POST-VIDEO:

1. Greg opens by saying, “Bruce Jenner is confused, but that doesn’t mean we need to be confused.” Why do you think confusion about moral issues is so common among Christians today?
2. What philosophies or cultural narratives—“tradition[s] of men” rather than Christ (Col. 2:8)—most tempt Christians in your sphere? Consider sharing what issues you or your loved ones have struggled or are struggling with.
3. In your own words, what does Greg mean by “Faithfulness isn’t theologically complicated”?
4. Discuss the two reasons Greg gives for Christian confusion: (1) untutored faith and (2) caring more about what friends think than what Jesus thinks. Which do you see most in yourself or your peers?
5. Why do you think clarity and conviction are sometimes mistaken for arrogance? What does grace-filled confidence look like?
6. Which of the five issues—salvation, abortion, gender, marriage, sex—feels most difficult to discuss, and why? (Pay attention to how your group answers. It may give you insight for what course to do next.)
7. Practice: Pair up and take turns explaining why one of the above topics is not theologically complicated. Consider a way to choose one at random for the pair. (A purpose of this task would be to help group members see where they are confused or need some clarity.)
8. How will you use what you learned in this session to prepare for the rest of the course?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Watch:** TikTok video from a “Bible student” declaring that Jesus accepts the non-binary and trans community: www.tiktok.com/@mattiemaemotl/video/7538786088857505038
- **Read:** “Why Jesus is pro-choice” by Darrel Ehrlick: <https://dailymontanan.com/2022/07/28/why-jesus-is-pro-choice/>

FIVE EASY ISSUES - SALVATION (Video 9:22)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Review the five issues introduced last week and the confusion many Christians have.

POST-VIDEO:

1. What challenges or objections have you personally heard about Christianity's claim that Jesus is the only way?
2. Why does exclusivity sound offensive in modern culture? What values does it seem to violate?
3. Role-play: In pairs, respond graciously to one of the following statements. (If you are familiar with the *Tactics* material, encourage the group to try to ask questions to advance the conversation.)
 - "You Christians are so arrogant to claim there's only one way."
 - "All religions basically teach the same thing."
 - "A loving God wouldn't send sincere people to Hell."
4. Read John 14:6, Acts 4:12, and Romans 10:9–13. What do these verses reveal about the uniqueness of Jesus? Are there ways you've heard some Christians dismiss the clear meaning of these verses?
5. How would you explain "Either Jesus pays or you pay" to a friend unfamiliar with Christian language? Practice communicating it in just a few sentences that are balanced with truth and grace. (If you have a small enough group then work together to write a short paragraph of explanation.)
6. Which Scripture most strengthens your confidence in Jesus' exclusive claim?
7. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Listen:** "The God of Scripture Has Always Been Narrow" with Greg Koukl: <https://www.str.org/w/the-god-of-scripture-has-always-been-narrow>
- **Read:** *Jesus, the Only Way: 100 verses*: <https://store.str.org/purchase/jesus-the-only-way-100-verses>
- **Watch:** A conversation between Larry King and Joel Osteen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwL1DThtxYg>. Think about how you would answer the question with millions of people watching.

FIVE EASY ISSUES - ABORTION (Video 9:54)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for reflections or stories from last week's conversations.
2. Review the key idea: Jesus is the only one who solved the problem.

POST-VIDEO:

1. What emotions come up for you when the topic of abortion is discussed publicly or personally? Why? Consider sharing stories of conversations on this topic and what you learned from them. Do you have Christian friends who are "confused" on this issue? What's their reasoning?
2. Read Genesis 9:6 and Exodus 20:13. How does the image of God establish the value of every human life?
3. Greg asks, "Are unborn human beings image bearers in the same sense as the born?" How does Luke 1:41-44 answer that?
4. Discuss the following two quotes. (The purpose here is to explore Greg's observation that how we use our words matter and may have led to some confusion. Think of terms used regarding this subject: "fetus," "embryo," "blobs of cells," "reproduction vs. procreation," "pro-choice," "women's healthcare," etc.)
 - a. "Equivocation is one of the greatest tools of the devil."
 - b. "When words lose their meaning people lose their lives."
5. How can Christians have both conviction and compassion when discussing abortion with those who disagree—or with those who carry regret? What are good questions to ask your confused Christian friends about the abortion topic?
6. Practice: In pairs, deliver a short gracious pro-life response to someone who says, "I'm personally against abortion but don't want to impose my beliefs."
7. What practical steps can and does the church take to support mothers, fathers, and families in crisis?
8. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read/Watch:** Megan Almon on how to make a pro-life case in 60 seconds:
<https://www.str.org/w/how-to-make-the-case-against-abortion-in-less-than-a-minute>
- **Serve:** Research and/or visit a local pregnancy resource center to learn what kind of services they offer.
- **Pray:** Pray for those wounded by abortion to experience Christ's forgiveness and healing.

FIVE EASY ISSUES - GENDER (Video 8:3)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Review the Genesis passages that shaped last week's discussion of human value.

POST-VIDEO:

1. Read Genesis 1:27 and 2:18–24. What do these verses reveal about God's design for humanity and gender?
2. Greg says, "In God's world, sex is binary." Why does that claim cause controversy today?
3. How can we show patience and compassion toward someone experiencing gender dysphoria without compromising truth? Do you have anyone in your life that identifies with the LGBTQ+ community? Please share practical advice on practices you've found helpful.
4. Discuss the difference between *sex* and *gender* in today's culture as compared to Scripture. Why does that distinction matter?
5. Why do pronouns matter? What's at stake when we decide to use or decline preferred pronouns? Have you had any personal encounters with a request to use preferred pronouns? Please share.
6. Role-play: A coworker asks you to use different pronouns. Practice a short, gracious response that honors conscience and kindness. Give and receive feedback with your practice partner or group.
7. What truths from Scripture strengthen you to stand faithfully when culture pressures you to conform?
8. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** "Does Gender Identity Matter?" by Alan Shlemon: <https://www.str.org/w/does-gender-identity-matter->
- **Read:** "Why Pronouns Matter...a Lot" by Greg Koukl: <https://www.str.org/w/why-pronouns-matter>
- **Watch an opposite view:** "The Importance of Pronouns" by Ruby George (11-min. video): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2cnJMoaUus>
- **Pray:** Pray for those struggling with gender dysphoria. Pray for those who are confused and for those who are in relationship with confused individuals.

FIVE EASY ISSUES - MARRIAGE (Video 7:44)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Review Genesis 2 and the meaning of “one flesh.”

POST-VIDEO:

1. Read Matthew 19:4–6. List the four “ones” in Jesus’ formula (one man, one woman, one flesh, one lifetime). Which do you think is most challenged today?
2. Why/how does Jesus’ teaching on divorce clarify God’s definition of marriage and sexual ethics as a whole?
3. Discuss the “silent Christ objection.” Why is arguing from silence a poor way to interpret Jesus’ teaching? Come up with a list of other things Jesus didn’t address directly that are still clearly in line with the biblical worldview.
4. How do cultures benefit from lifelong male-female marriage? (Consider exploring the Institute for Family Studies / ifstudies.org with your group for more information.)
5. Share how marriage in your life (or someone you admire) has displayed something about God’s faithfulness.
6. Role-play: A friend says, “If two people love each other, why does it matter?” Practice a brief, gracious reply.
7. How can we honor singles while still upholding the importance of marriage in God’s design?
8. How will you use what you’ve learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** “Same-Sex Marriage Challenges and Responses” by Greg Koukl:
<https://www.str.org/w/same-sex-marriage-challenges-and-responses>
- **Read:** “Do Two Parents Matter More Than Ever?”
<https://ifstudies.org/blog/do-two-parents-matter-more-than-ever>
- **Encourage:** Send a note to a married couple or mentor who models faithfulness.

FIVE EASY ISSUES - SEX (Video 10:58)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Review Jesus' marriage formula and its moral implications.

POST-VIDEO:

1. What has been the view of sex within your Christian culture? Has sex been a good gift to be celebrated in the right context? Has the topic been avoided? Has sex been depicted simply as a sin to be avoided? How might we illuminate God's design for sex as a gift in our oversexualized culture? How will you do this within your own families? How does Jesus' definition of marriage also define the boundaries for sexual behavior?
2. Read Romans 1:26–27 and 1 Corinthians 6:9–11. What two truths do these passages hold together (warning and redemption)? In your experience, has homosexuality been propped up as a worse than other sexual sin?
3. Greg warns that “confusion on this issue is deadly deception.” What pressures most tempt you or your friends to downplay biblical sexual ethics?
4. Why does Paul link sexual sin to inheritance in the kingdom of God? What does that teach about repentance and identity? (If your group is small, this might provide an opportunity to confess/repent of some sexual sin. Be aware and maybe take an opportunity to break up into appropriate groups.)
5. Discuss the difference between occasional sin and habitual pattern. How does this distinction offer both truth and grace?
6. Role-play: A friend says, “I’ve messed up too much for God to forgive me.” Practice a response that points to the gospel with tenderness.
7. What healthy practices (helpful media boundaries, accountability, community) promote sexual integrity in the church?
8. How will you use what you’ve learned in this final session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** “Are Homosexuals Born that Way?” by Alan Shlemon:
<https://www.str.org/web/guest/w/are-homosexuals-born-that-way->
- **Listen:** “Determining the Time to Tell Your Kids About LGBT Ideology” with Alan Shlemon:
<https://www.str.org/w/determining-the-time-to-tell-your-kids-about-lgbt-ideology-1>
- **Watch:** “How Hollywood Gets the Christian View of Sex Wrong” with Tim Barnett:
<https://www.str.org/w/how-hollywood-gets-the-christian-view-of-sex-wrong>
- **Commit:** Write a private prayer of commitment for purity and grace.