

JESUS: ONLY ONE WAY - INTRODUCTION (Video 5:11)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

PRE-VIDEO: Consider establishing or reviewing Guidelines for the group and making introductions of attendees if needed.

POST-VIDEO:

1. What challenges or questions related to this topic do you struggle with the most? How do you struggle with these? (Examples: "That's narrow-minded, arrogant, bigoted, or exclusive." "Why would God be so mean?" "What about those people who have never heard?")
2. Discuss with the group why people in our culture today find the exclusivity of Jesus offensive.
3. Initial role-play: Partner up or have a skilled person take on the antagonist role making the following claims and practice a short conversation with the individual.
 - You Christians are so arrogant and narrow-minded to claim that Jesus is the only way.
 - All religions are basically the same, so why are you trying to push your particular view on me?
 - Why would I want to worship a God that would send sincere people to Hell just because they don't get the details right (i.e., believing in Jesus)?
4. Where does the Bible claim Jesus is the only way? Read and discuss: John 14:6; 6:28–29; 5:23; 3:36; 8:24; 5:26–27; Acts 4:11–12; Matt. 24:4–5; Gal 2:21; Luke 24:45.
5. In the video, Jon shares a quote from a Harvard graduate. She says: "The freedom of our day is the freedom to devote ourselves to any values we please, on the mere condition that we do not believe them to be true." Discuss with the group the issues with this statement and how you would respond to her.
6. Do religious claims attempt to make reference to the way the world really is, or do they refer to our personal preferences? Where do you see friends, relatives, or culture confusing this?
7. Jon says that the most important question is not whether or not the exclusivity of Jesus is offensive but is it true. When you hear someone say that Christianity is "exclusive," what do you think they mean? How might you redirect that conversation toward the question of truth rather than feelings?

How will you use what you have learned in the first session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Listen:** "The God of Scripture Has Always Been Narrow": <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:** "Why most people are closed-minded" (by Jordan Peterson) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSmELTi6Gs4>

JESUS: ONLY ONE WAY - DEAD ENDS (Video 9:26)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Recall the major takeaways from the previous week.
3. Share any new stories involving use of the content.

POST-VIDEO:

1. Have you been told that you are mean because you made a religious or moral claim? Ask the group to share stories related to this dead end.
2. *Ad Hominem*: Turn to your neighbor and try to explain an *ad hominem* attack. Share if you've ever encountered an *ad hominem* attack. Have you seen Christians fall prey to or commit an *ad hominem* fallacy? Share where you've seen this take place.
3. What's the difference between holding a narrow view and being narrow-minded? What other narrow views do you hold? (Hint: Everything you think is one way and not another.) Have you been narrow-minded in any of your views? Please share.
4. Discuss the analogy that Jon gave that demonstrates why the Bible's diagnosis of our need for an exclusive savior is not arrogant. Can you suggest a different analogy to help explain this concept?
5. What is relativism? Discuss. How do you see relativism impacting our culture and society? What effect has it had on conversations about truth? Recall/review the conversation from last week about preference vs. truth. What questions can you ask to help differentiate between the two types of claims?
6. How will you use what you have learned in these first two sessions?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Watch:** Megan Almon discusses what you need to know about moral relativism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyegHFmPHps>
- **Watch:** "Five Fatal Flaws of Moral Relativism": <https://www.str.org/w/five-fatal-flaws-of-moral-relativism>
- **Watch:** A conversation between Larry Kind and Joel Osteen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwL1DThtxYg>. Think about how you would answer the question with millions of people watching.

JESUS: ONLY ONE WAY - THE CLAIM (Video 11:05)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Recall the major takeaways from the previous week.
3. Share any new stories involving use of the content.

POST-VIDEO:

1. Have you ever had a conversation with someone who believed that all religions are essentially the same? How did you respond at the time? In hindsight, is there anything you would have done or said differently?
2. In this session, Jon argues that religious pluralism is a false concept. Why do you think this idea of religious pluralism remains so widespread in our society? Discuss with the group. (Consider those individuals who claim to be spiritual but not religious.)
3. All religions cannot possibly be true. Have the group collectively (or in smaller groups) write out a short argument as to why this is the case. See if you can do it in less than five sentences.
4. Discuss with the group how other religions view the person of Jesus. In what ways do these perspectives differ from the Christian understanding of who Jesus is?
5. Jon discusses three questions about Jesus: What did Jesus claim about himself? Did he verify that claim? Why did he make the claim in the first place? Practice articulating answers to these questions in your own words. (Consider partnering up or some other means by which the group can individually practice concisely communicating answers to these questions.)
6. According to the historical record, Jesus' identity is the central issue of Christianity. Why do you think this is such a foundational issue?
7. In addition to his identity, what other major issues do you think are central to the Christian faith? (Caveat: This could create a heated discussion. We tend to make secondary and tertiary issues primary. You might ask it this way: "What are other issues/doctrines that if rejected would be a rejection of Christianity?" Note: There are other very important issues that tie directly to these essentials, that are not themselves essential.)
8. What was the greatest and most profound claim that Jesus made? How does this claim differ from other religions?
9. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** "Was Jesus a religious pluralist?": <https://www.str.org/w/was-jesus-a-religious-pluralist->
- **Watch:** Consider how the following videos advance pluralism:
 1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ciUnpSqiOQ>
 2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnK3WWOAeM>
 3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gDVMCJ8iZ8s>

JESUS: ONLY ONE WAY - WAS JESUS RIGHT? (Video 7:43)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week.
2. Recall the major takeaways from the previous week.
3. Share any new stories involving use of the content.

POST-VIDEO:

1. In this session, Jon discussed three possible responses to Jesus' claim to be the only way to salvation. What are these three responses, and why is it important to understand each one? Discuss with the group.
2. Using biblical references, explain why the claim that Jesus was a liar is not supported by the evidence. How does Scripture affirm his truthfulness and integrity?
3. C.S. Lewis wrote,
I am trying here to prevent anyone from saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. 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 must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. 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 up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.¹
Discuss as a group: How does Lewis use logical reasoning to make his case about Jesus' identity? Does Lewis leave room for any alternative views (e.g., myth, legend, or misinterpretation)?
4. Do you find the "Liar, Lunatic, or Lord" argument convincing? Why or why not? How might someone from a non-Christian background respond to Lewis' argument?
5. Practice with a partner or as a group articulating the "Liar, Lunatic, Lord" argument in your own words to demonstrate the most reasonable conclusion.
6. In this session, Jon explains that Jesus did not teach that all religions lead to God. Read John 3:36 and John 8:24. Based on these verses, what did Jesus believe and teach about the way to salvation? What other Bible passages support the claim that Jesus is the only way to salvation?
7. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** "One Way or Anyway? Part 1": <https://www.str.org/w/one-way-or-any-way-part-i>
- **Watch:** "Can People Be Saved through Natural Revelation?": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33k3tGhHwUs>
- **Watch:** "Jesus Never Claimed to Be God" (interview with Alex O'Conner) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3NFiOxjN1g>

¹ C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (HarperOne, 2001), 55–56.

JESUS: ONLY ONE WAY - WHY IS JESUS THE ONLY WAY? (Video 11:38)**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS****PRE-VIDEO:**

1. Ask for feedback or reviews on the Action Points from last week. (It may be worth watching the Alex O'Connor video together).
2. Recall the major takeaways from the previous week.
3. Share any new stories involving use of the content.

POST-VIDEO:

1. The statement "Jesus is the only way because he is the only one who solved the problem" can be challenging for non-believers to understand. How would you explain what this means—and why it matters—to someone who doesn't share your faith? Practice articulating this explanation with a partner.
2. One of the common objections people raise is the idea that a loving God would send people to Hell. In this session, Jon explained that Hell is a consequence of being guilty of sin—crimes against God. How might you explain this perspective to someone who doesn't share your beliefs?
3. As a group, discuss examples of belief systems or religions that emphasize human effort or good works as the path to salvation, rather than relying on Jesus. How do these approaches differ from the message of the gospel? Where do you inadvertently operate as if your performance earns you favor with God?
4. In this session, Jon explained how Jesus fully paid the price for our sins. As a group, discuss what you know about Roman crucifixion and why it was such a significant form of execution. What is the meaning of the Greek word *tetelestai*, and why is it important in understanding what Jesus accomplished on the cross?
5. In today's culture, Jesus is often portrayed primarily as a social justice figure or simply as a symbol of love and acceptance. Based on what you've learned in this session, how does that view fall short or contradict the full purpose of his life and mission?
6. As you reflect on Jesus' life and mission, what stands out to you most? How does this shape your compassion for those who don't know him? In what ways does this session challenge or inspire you to be a more faithful ambassador for Christ?
7. How will you use what you've learned in this session?

ACTION POINTS:

- **Read:** "Everyone Is Guilty, but Anyone Can Be Pardoned": <https://www.str.org/w/everyone-is-guilty-but-anyone-can-be-pardoned>
- **Watch:** "Does God Literally Desire All to Be Saved?": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXUHEvfSCj0>
- **Watch:** "The Man on the Middle Cross Said I Could Come" (with Alistair Begg): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDL8euKhd3U>