

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 3 January 21, 2024 "Is Jesus the Only Way?"



OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we come before You today humbled and grateful for all that You've done for us. We ask that You would bless our time together as we seek to know You more. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

John 14:1-6 (NIV)

¹ "The "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

- ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"
- ⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

1 Timothy 2:3-6 (NIV)

³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

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INTRODUCTION

Many Christians have questions when it comes to people of other faiths. If we believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven, does God send people of other faiths to hell? Not only do Christians have questions like this about people of other faiths, but Christians also wonder if heaven is even real? How do we find faith when we are struggling with those questions?

Christians believe that Jesus already paid the price for everyone's salvation. And if we put our trust in Him we will go to heaven. Many Christians also believe that the saving grace of God through Jesus is applied to people who were yearning for him, even if they did not know it. Therefore, people of other faiths can go to heaven. Heaven is not something we can prove, but Jesus stated that there is a life beyond this one. At some point, we need to make a leap of faith and believe Jesus and the testimony of the apostles that there is a life beyond this one.

QUESTIONS

- 1. Do you know anyone who is of another faith beside Christianity? What is your relationship like with them?
- 2. Do you think people of other faiths will go to heaven? Or only Christians? Explain.
- 3. Are you afraid of death? Why or why not?
- 4. Do you believe that heaven is real? Explain why or why not?
- 5. If you believe that heaven is real, does it change the way you live today?

FINAL APPLICATION

How can you show love to a person of another faith this week? How can this group help?