

# Is Jesus the Only Way?

1. Kids often develop a \_\_\_\_\_ on other people for their understanding of Christianity.
2. Often, children absorb things that sound right, but aren't actually \_\_\_\_\_.

## Three Parental Keys

- (i) Emphasize Jesus' teachings follow His identity.
- (ii) Explain when people say, "the Bible says . . ." it doesn't mean 100% accuracy.
- (iii) Distinguish between reading isolated verses and understanding context.

## Historical Positions?

A Pastor in NY went viral for saying this: *"There was a time when you would see people in the pulpit say, 'well, if you don't believe in Jesus [you're] going to hell.' That's insanity in many ways because that is not what Jesus even believes. And so the key is you believe in God. And whatever your path is to God I celebrate that."*

3. That Pastor is \_\_\_\_\_ questioning the historic Christian view.
4. Non-Christians claim believing there's only one way to God is \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Our kids need a clear understanding of what the Bible \_\_\_\_\_.

## What Does it Mean?

6. People are combining \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Tolerance doesn't mean accepting multiple views as \_\_\_\_\_ true.
8. Tolerance is a \_\_\_\_\_ to bear with ideas other than your own.

## Three Relevant Views

- a. Jesus isn't a necessary path to God; people can find eternal life in many ways.
- b. Jesus' death was necessary to provide a path to God, and all people will now have eternal life through Him.
- c. Jesus' death was necessary to provide a path to God, but people must accept Jesus to have eternal life.

## What Does the Bible Say?

9. What does the Bible say about the nature of \_\_\_\_\_ and the nature of \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. Sin is a transgression of God's \_\_\_\_\_ law (1 John 3:4).
  - b. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 4:8).
  - c. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (Deut. 32:4).
10. God could have chosen to \_\_\_\_\_ in our universal state of sinfulness and judge humankind accordingly.
11. Jesus' sacrifice was \_\_\_\_\_ way God offered atonement to humankind.
  - Acts 4:12
  - John 14:5-6
12. Only through Jesus can anyone have \_\_\_\_\_.
  - His atonement makes \_\_\_\_\_ possible.
  - Only those who \_\_\_\_\_ will have eternal life.

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### Opener

- Do you think people of all religions will have eternal life with God? Why or why not?

### Going Further

- Would God be the most loving if He gave everyone eternal life, regardless of what they believed or did?
  - Look up the word sin:
    - Isaiah 59:2
    - Romans 2:14-15
    - Romans 3:23
    - 1 John 3:4
  - Explain how a God who is both loving and just cannot overlook sin – some kind of atonement was necessary to reconcile God and humankind. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was the atonement God chose.
- Read John 14:6. What is Jesus teaching about the various paths people try to take to God?
  - What is the clear meaning of His words "He is the only path to God" then read: Acts 4:12; Romans 3:25; 1 Cor. 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21 & 1 Tim. 2:5.
  - What does 1 Cor. 15:3-4 and Gal. 1:19 and Gal. 4:4 say?
    - Helps connect to points that imply Jesus was a real person.
- Some people called Christian universalists believe that Jesus is the only path to God, BUT that all people will receive eternal life because He made that path. What did Jesus teach about this view?
  - Matt. 7:13, 14 & 21
  - Matt. 25:34, 41 & 46.

### Application

- Re-read the quote from the Pastor from NY – how would you respond to his claim that, "it's insanity to believe Jesus is the only way to God?"

# Is Jesus the Only Way?

1. Kids often develop a dependence on other people for their understanding of Christianity.
2. Often, children absorb things that sound right, but aren't actually biblical.

## Three Parental Keys

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3. That Pastor is not alone questioning the historic Christian view.
4. Non-Christians claim believing there's only one way to God is narrow-minded and arrogant.
5. Our kids need a clear understanding of what the Bible teaches.

## What Does it Mean?

6. People are combining exclusivity with intolerance.
7. Tolerance doesn't mean accepting multiple views as equally true.
8. Tolerance is a willingness to bear with ideas other than your own.

## Three Relevant Views

- a. Jesus isn't a necessary path to God; people can find eternal life in many ways.
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## What Does the Bible Say?

9. What does the Bible say about the nature of sin and the nature of God?
  - a. Sin is a transgression of God's moral law (1 John 3:4).
  - b. God is love (John 4:8).
  - c. God is just (Deut. 32:4).
10. God could have chosen to leave us in our universal state of sinfulness and judge humankind accordingly.
11. Jesus' sacrifice was the way God offered atonement to humankind.
  - Acts 4:12
  - John 14:5-6
12. Only through Jesus can anyone have eternal life.
  - His atonement makes reconciliation possible.
  - Only those who believe in Him will have eternal life.

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