

Tough Questions
Is Jesus The Only Way To God?
Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brian Fannin / April 7, 2019

If you are asking if Jesus is the only way to the God of the Bible—the revealed creator of the world, the God of Abraham, Isaac, Moses, Daniel, and David, and the sovereign ruler and owner of all—the answer is yes.

If you are asking if Jesus is the only way to a god, then you are speaking of a little “g” god, a Hindu god (which there are many), the Buddha (does not even acknowledge a god), or Allah in Islam (calling you to submissive pursuit of pleasing one you personally cannot know), then the answer is no. It’s important we define terms, because a personal relationship with God is a single course.

1 Corinthians 8:5-6 "For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many ‘gods’ and many ‘lords’— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.”

Reasons the answer is a stumbling block

1. Because it sounds so arrogant.
2. Because it insults one of our highest values—freedom.
3. Because truth is objectively placed outside of you.

Three Crucial Realities About Jesus

1. Jesus’ distinct claims set Him apart from all others.

Many people say Jesus was a good teacher, set a great example, and cared deeply for the oppressed. He’s put forth as an example to follow. However, what He actually did was claim what no other religious founder has claimed. He claimed to be God!

John 8:12 “Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’”

John 8:24 “I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am He you will die in your sins.”

The reason Jesus drove the Pharisees and Sadducees crazy is because they understood that He was not claiming to be a good teacher. He was claiming to be God and humanity needed forgiveness of sin which would be possible through faith in Him.

2. Jesus answers ultimate questions that you don’t always know how to verbalize.

John 3:1-7 “Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb

and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again.’”

Jesus gives answers of ultimate importance and an understanding of how life gets made new.

Nicodemus was the epitome of an enlightened person—educated, influential, and a man of power. Yet, what he thinks he sees in Jesus is rational, looking at what He does. But Jesus has a different conversation, one that cuts to the heart of what we need—new life!

“I know men; and I tell you that Jesus Christ is not a man. Superficial minds see a resemblance between Christ and the founders of empires and the gods of other religions. That resemblance does not exist. Everything in Him astonishes me. His spirit overawes me, and His will confounds me. Between Him and whoever else in the world, there is no possible term of comparison.”

~Napoleon

Let’s stop with “Jesus is a good teacher and/or a good example.” Here is the truth. He claimed to be God, who could alone through faith in Him bring you to God. There is nothing good in a claim like that unless it is profoundly and absolutely true.

3. Jesus can give you a relationship with God that only He offers.

No other religion points you away from effort, away from yourself, and to God with right standing by what He accomplished by paying your sin debt, forgiveness and new life, and an identity made for eternity.

John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Jesus is the only way to God. That only works for:

- sinners who know they cannot save themselves
- the broken and weak from life—He does not turn away
- those who thirst for truth and life