



## EXPLORE GOD TEACHING GUIDE

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### WEEK 1



#### MAIN SCRIPTURES:

John 14:6  
Matthew 7:13-14

#### MAIN POINT:

Jesus said some controversial things about the way for us to follow God.

#### JESUS CONNECTION:

The only way to restore our broken relationship with God is to believe Jesus conquered death on the cross to rescue us from our sin.

**THIS GUIDE IS FORMATTED TO HELP YOU INTRODUCE AND REFLECT ON THE TEACHING VIDEOS.**

#### INTRODUCTION:

- **Series Overview:** We've all had questions about life and God: Is there a God? How can we know Him? Why does God allow pain and suffering? The answers to these questions really drive the purpose and direction of our lives, yet sometimes it's hard to know how to get these answers. Don't be intimidated if you don't have the answers - that's what we want to explore together!
- **Tonight's** question is a controversial one: "Is Christianity Too Narrow?"
- We are going to watch a video and discuss it together. I really encourage you all to pay attention and feel free to be real and share your thoughts when we process the video together.

#### WATCH THE VIDEO

#### TALK IT OUT

- After watching the video together, choose from this list of questions or ask some of your own to facilitate large group discussion. There is no need to feel pressure to cover all questions.
- Set up your Q & A time by saying something like, "We are going to process this video together. Before we talk through it, I just want to say that there might be some of us who will disagree with others – and that is fine. We want this to be an honest, safe space for each of us to be real and expression our opinions."
  - What did you connect with in the video?
  - What did you think about the elephant illustration? Do you think anyone or anything has the right to make the call from the king's viewpoint?
  - What seems harsh or hard to believe about saying that only one religion has it all figured out?
  - After watching this video, do you believe that Christianity is the only right religion, not the only right religion, or you just aren't sure? Why or why not?

#### WRAP IT UP

- Our main point today is: Jesus said some controversial things about the way for us to follow God.
- Here at Hope we believe: The only way to restore our broken relationship with God is to believe Jesus conquered death on the cross to rescue us from our sin.
- But we want to talk about this more, so I'm going to pray for us and we are going to transition into small group discussion time.
- Close in prayer: God, please be with us as we talk about and wrestle with tough and controversial questions. We love you, thank you for loving us and being with us. Amen.