



EXPLORE GOD DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2



MAIN SCRIPTURES:

John 14:6
Matthew 7:13-14

MAIN POINT:

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

JESUS CONNECTION:

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

LEADER CORNER

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to have a safe space to talk about if they believe Jesus is the only way to God and hear what we as Hope Community Church believe.

THINK ABOUT THIS

As leaders, we don't have to be afraid or worried when people ask questions, even questions about their faith and God. **A natural part of someone growing and owning their faith is asking questions.** You have a huge potential to help shape someone's faith development by pointing them in the right direction to learn how to answer deep questions of the soul. **The biggest questions only God is big enough to answer.** And God Himself says He is with those who are searching: "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." – Jeremiah 29:13 Today, take steps to make today's discussion PERSONAL. Why do YOU believe Jesus is who He says He is – the only way to the Father? Share that with your group.

THINGS TO KNOW

- Here are a few extra places you can point your students to in their search for answers:
- **ExploreGod.com**, where the videos we are watching are from, has TONS more.
- **"Why I Believe"** by Dr. Kennedy
- **"The Case for Faith: Student Edition"** by Lee Strobel

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

What are different things you've heard about whether Christianity is too narrow or not?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you connect with in the video?
2. 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?

READ JOHN 14:6 & MATTHEW 7:13-14 and answer the following questions:

3. According to these verses, does Jesus believe all religions lead to the same place?
4. What can seem harsh about that? What seems clear about it?
5. How can we have a restored relationship with God through Jesus?
6. 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?
7. What insight(s) from the Bible can people hold onto while wrestling with this question?
8. How can we be there for others wrestling with this question?

NEXT STEP

We might be in different places on our beliefs about the Bible, but we can all take a next step closer to Jesus this week.

IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY – take time on your own this week to PRAY, to SEARCH, to LOOK FOR ANSWERS.

IF YOU ALREADY BELIEVE JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY – try praying for someone in your life who doesn't. And as a double dog dare challenge – share about the hope you have in Jesus with them.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

John 14:6 (NIV)

“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

BONUS LEADER RESOURCE

WEEKLY TEXT IDEA:

This series we will give you a weekly text idea to send to your students with a little teaser about the topic. Reaching out to your group outside of small group is a way to show you care:

“Jesus said some pretty controversial things that not everyone agrees with. Come hang out with us tonight and let’s talk more about it!”