

WHY>

WK. 6 WHY JESUS?

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On this six-week journey we will explore the answers to some of life's most difficult questions. Even though we will still be left with questions in the end, as we pursue God, He will reveal Himself to us in many ways. Whether you're a deeply committed follower of Christ or someone just beginning a spiritual journey, this series will help you explore the answers to the questions you're asking or being asked by others.

Today we are going to focus on the question "Why Jesus?"

HOW DOES AMERICA VIEW RELIGION?

We have more of a buffet mentality when it comes to religion.

We want a little bit of this and little taste of that.

It is like we pick and choose what we want to believe in and how we want to live.

We take a little of Buddha, a little Hinduism, mixed with a little Oprah, and a little Jesus and we say we have a religious belief.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH THIS TYPE OF RELIGION?

God is not a buffet style of God

When you read the Bible we are commanded to have no other gods before Him.

Jesus makes a very strong claim against a buffet approach.

John 14:6, Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

You will either view this statement as arrogance or as a statement of love and compassion for people.

THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS JESUS ASKS.

Who do the crowds say that I am?

Luke 9:18-19, Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say I am?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life."

What does society say about Jesus?

Wise man, Magician, Prophet, Good Old Guy,
Moral Teacher, Philosopher, Religious Leader,
Legendary Figure, Cultural Reformer, Mystic
Thinker

Who do you say that I am?

Luke 9:20, "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

All religious worldviews are understood to be exclusive.

They ask the same questions, but arrive at different conclusions.

How is Jesus different?

He claimed to be God.

He claimed to be the source of eternal life.

He died as atonement for humanity's sin.

He rose from the dead.

What good is it to gain the world and lose your soul?

Luke 9:25, What will you gain, if you own the whole world but destroy yourself or waste your life?

Jesus was challenging our focus and our priorities.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The uniqueness of the message of Jesus is not what we have to do, but what He has already done for us.