

Is Jesus Really God?

The Big Seven, part 5
Pastor Dave Nichols, May 26, 2019

Jesus' Claim:

- Equality with...

(John 10:25-33)

- Worshiped as...

(Matthew 8:2, 14:33, John 9:35-39, 20:27-29)

- Proclaimed Himself to be ...

(John 8:58)

The Proof:

The Resurrection is...

(1 Corinthians 15:1-20, Acts 17:31)

1. A Christian_____

(Acts 2:41, Acts 4:4)

2. The Witness_____

(Acts 7:54-60)

3. The_____

(Acts 9, Luke 22:54-62, Acts 2:14-41, John 7:5, Galatians 1:19)

How Should We Respond?

- We _____

- We _____

This weeks discussion guide:

Welcome to week 5 of our Spring small group season! It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships in the coming weeks. This small group season will last until the week of June 9th.

May God stretch, encourage and equip us as we discuss these questions related to how we view Jesus, ourselves and our relationship to Him.

Getting Started:

This past Sunday, Dave's message addressing, "Is Jesus Really God?" looked at the claims of Jesus, the evidences for His claims, and then our response to Jesus.

To start our discussion this week, we're going to watch two videos and discuss them. The first one is the 2.5 minute video that was shown last Sunday that is a survey of many people's responses to this week's question. The second video is a 10 minute video that is a collection of people discussing this weeks question. This video displays the various questions, struggles and perspectives of these individuals regarding this week's topic.

Watch 1st video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5tX1DgdzRg&feature=youtu.be>

- Did you identify with anyone's expressed views in the film? If so, who and what resonated with you?

- Does it seem consistent with your experience that “67% of US adults...have a personal relationship with Jesus?” Why or why not?

Watch 2nd video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FjDPkDEGPqk&feature=youtu.be>

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in *The Curiosity Collective*? What did you find intriguing or compelling?

- Was Jesus a historical figure, in your opinion? Why or why not?

- What did Leonce mean when he said, “Religion says ‘I do, therefore I’m loved.’ Jesus says, ‘You’re loved, therefore you do?’”

- Christians believe that sin separates humanity from God. Yet Jesus, through his death, bridges that gap. Why do you think Jesus had to die in order to accomplish this?

- In the video, Bryan says “Jesus was resurrected—rose up from the dead—with over five hundred witnesses. They saw him and, based on that encounter, were willing to die in order to testify as to what they saw.” What do you think about his claim?

- Do you think Jesus actually claims to be God in the Bible? What do you think about Jesus’s claim to be God?

Further Discussion:

From the message last Sunday, what insights were helpful and/or what questions were raised for you?

How were you encouraged, challenged, stretched, confused, etc.?

Read the following experiences from John 20:

- John Believes (John 20:8)
- Mary Believes (John 20:15-16)
- Thomas Believes (John 20:25-28)

What unique type of evidence did each of the three (John, Mary and Thomas) need?

John seems to have found it easiest to believe in Jesus. Why do you think he found it easy? Do you find it easy or more difficult to believe in Jesus?

Thomas seems to have found it hardest to believe in Jesus. Why do you think it was hard for Thomas to believe?

If you believe that Jesus is God, what has led to that belief?

What should be the results of believing that Jesus is God?