

## Questions for Discussion in Community Group

### Most Important Question in the Universe

1. What did the speaker say was the “Most Important Question in the Universe?” Do you agree or disagree? Discuss.
2. Regarding worldviews, other religions and cults how does the answer, “Who is the Lord Jesus Christ” discriminate?
3. As Christians, believers, in the Lord Jesus Christ, describe and give examples of how in the living of our lives, we sometimes demonstrate that we forget who He is. What are some examples? Give examples of how we can demonstrate that we believe He is who He says He is.
4. Discuss among yourselves who Jesus Christ is to you. Has your understanding changed over time as you’ve walked with Him? Discuss.
5. Does believing who Jesus says He is matter? Explain

## Equip

### Equip- Ephesians 4:11-16

1. God equips the Body through spiritual gifts.
2. Equipped for: Work of ministry & Building up the Body
3. Equipped unto: Unity, Maturity & Fullness  
>on mouse click<
4. Equipped by: Truth that leads to growth

### Big Idea: Truth leads to Growth

#### I. Growing Up Amidst Deception (Ephesians 4:14)

“...so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”

#### Dunning-Kruger effect Image

#### Heuristics Image

#### II. Growing up by Speaking Truth (v. 15)

“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ”

1. Passive  
>add each on mouse click<
2. Aggressive
3. Assertive - Jesus

#### Image- Conflict Cycle (Solution oriented)

#### III. Built Up (v. 16)

“from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

### Big Idea: Truth leads to Growth

## What is the most important Question in the Universe?

**Jesus asked this question:**

**“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”**.. “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

**“But who do you say that I am?”**... “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

**Who is Jesus Christ?**

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### **1. The Mormon church**

#### **What do they believe about God?**

God was once a man like us who existed on another planet. Through obedience he progressed to the God of his own planet.

“As man is, God once was.”

#### **What Do they believe about Jesus?**

1. Jesus is a created being
2. Jesus is the elder spirit brother of Satan
3. They believe that Jesus was a married man

All three are contrary to the Bible.

#### **What do they believe about the trinity?**

Like most Christians, we believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God and creator of the world. However, Jesus Christ and God are two distinct beings. Each has their own glorified body.

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### **2. Jehovahs’s Witnesses**

#### **What Do they believe about Jesus?**

Jesus is Michael the Arch Angel

Jesus was a created being and then created the world.

Jesus died on a torture stake, not a cross

Jesus was not bodily resurrected

The body of Jesus went into the tomb and then dissolved

When Jesus resurrected, he was given a spirit body

“The man Jesus is dead forever dead”

Scriptures teach that Jesus rose with the body that was on the cross

Jesus had an invisible return in 1914. His rule on earth began then.

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#### **4. Roman Catholicism**

Who is Jesus?

Jesus is God incarnate, died on the cross for our sins, rose from the dead in bodily form, will come back in the flesh to judge the world

How salvation works in RC:

1. Jesus is necessary for salvation but not sufficient. Grace is needed for salvation, But grace is not enough. Your works help earn your salvation.
2. Salvation is separated into two stages:
  1. Stage 1: initial salvation. Baptism is required.
  2. Stage 2: stage 2 salvation, final justification. Acts of righteousness are not fruits of a relationship with God but rather acts the merit final salvation.
  3. Purgatory is where you go to pay the price for their sins. Jesus blood is not enough.

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#### **4. Day Adventists (SDA)**

Jesus is the son of God, the second member of the Godhead, born of a virgin and prophesied to be the coming Messiah from the OT.

Their belief about Jesus is consistent with orthodox, evangelical, Christianity

They differ in concepts of divine authority, Bible only, or Bible as it is interpreted by Ellen G. White.

Some SDAs place the writings of Ellen G White on the level and authority of the Apostle Paul

They believe in the ongoing gift of prophecy

Some of Ellen white's prophecies are clearly anti-Biblical. Ex. Observance of Sabbath is essential for salvation, Those who go to church on Sunday that is a mark of the beast

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#### **5. Who do Pop Christians say Jesus is?**

UnBiblical view of Jesus is a combination of Yoda, Oprah Winfrey, my buddy, all loving and not demanding  
Jesus is their life coach

Low view of Christ

Low view of sin

High view of self

God's love without God's holiness

Progressive

Slide 7

**6. What does Islam believe about Jesus?**

- Jesus, Isa was a prophet of God
- Jesus was born of a virgin
- Jesus is not the son of God but a prophet of God
- Jesus did not die on the cross nor was he resurrected as atonement for our sins
- the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, was nothing more than a messenger of God.”

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**7. Who do the Jews Believe Jesus was?**

- Not the son of God, God is one
- Not the messiah for the messiah would be associated with rebuilding the Temple and ushering in the messianic Kingdom
- Jesus was the most damaging of false prophets

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**8. Who do the Buddhist's say Jesus is?**

- Enlightened, holy man
- Not god
- Did not raise from the dead

Slide 10 plus

Make slides to accommodate these scriptures:

**Matthew 16:13-17**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “**Who do people say that the Son of Man is?**” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

**Matthew 11:29**

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

**Mark 12:36-37**

And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared,

“The Lord said to my Lord,

“Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet.”

David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?” And the great throng heard him gladly.

**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.”

**John 8:58-59**

Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

**John 1:1–5 (ESV):** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**Colossians 1:15–20 (ESV):** 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**Acts 17:28 (ESV):** In him we live and move and have our being

Next slide

Last slide is “Who is the Lord Jesus Christ”