
GOD NEVER SAID THAT.

Week 4: God Doesn't Care What You Believe.



People have a lot to say when it comes to God. God is real. God is not real. Here's what God says. Here's what God thinks. Pop theology has made its way into our worship music, blogging, social media sites, and yes, even sometimes Bible Studies and sermons. This series, we will examine six of the most common forms of pop theology...

and then look to the Scriptures to see what God might say to us instead.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sunday we explored five key views concerning the statement, "God doesn't care what you believe."
Restrictivist: Unless one trusts in Christ, one is eternally lost.
Universal Opportunity: One must trust in Christ, and God provides all persons a fair hearing of the Gospel during their earthly life.
Hope Beyond the Grave: One must trust in Christ, and God provides all persons a hearing of the Gospel after death - even if they have already heard the Gospel.
Inclusivist: One must trust in Christ, but in the end God will save all people through Christ, whether they want him to or not.
Pluralistic: We all believe in the same God, it doesn't really matter who/what you believe.

Which view resonated most with you and why? Take time to discuss everyone's view, being careful to listen and debate the matter fairly, without attacking one another. The key question for this segment is simple: "Help me understand why you think/feel that way?"

2. *Read Mark 15:21-41.* As Jesus is crucified upon the cross, do you believe that he is the Son of God? Does it matter whether or not he is the Son of God?

If Jesus is the Son of God, why do you think God would go to such extraordinary lengths to demonstrate his love for us? How does the centurion's comment in 15:39 echo this sentiment?

If Jesus is the Son of God, and went to extraordinary lengths to demonstrate his love for us, would God want us to believe in someone/something else? Why or why not?

3. (20 minutes) Break into groups of men and women. Find separate areas of your meeting space. Discuss: (a) How are your faith struggles progressing? (b) Pray for each person.

BE THE REVOLUTION

Who and what we believe in matters to God.

RENOVATING THE HEART

Surely this man was the Son of God! (*Mark 15:39*).