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Only One Way to God? Discussion Guide

Section 1

Discuss what you applied from the last Overflow Show.

Read John 14:6-9

What adjectives would you use to describe these statements that Jesus made?

Section 2

Listen to the 5 minute podcast called "Only One Way to God?" at the website OverflowShow.com
Insights drawn from the book CORNER CONVERSATIONS by Randy Newman, Kregel Publications.

Section 3

What stood out to you from this episode?

Discuss whether or not Christians are unique in saying their way is the only way to heaven.
How "narrow" is Christianity in its beliefs versus other religions?

Discuss which view seems more arrogant or humble, believing in a works-based religion or a faith-based religion.

What are examples of how major religions contradict each other?

Discuss how tolerant and open-minded these statements are: "I think all paths to heaven lead to the same place. All religions are good ways to heaven. It's best to have the attitude that you've got your way to God and I've got mine."

What about really good people like Gandhi, who happens to believe in another faith?

Section 4

What is a respectful way to refer to other religions while still portraying Christianity as the only true way to heaven?

How could we apply one of the principles in this study in the next 7 days before we meet again?

One suggestion: Let's do some group polling to see what people's opinions are. Informally mention to non-Christian friends you might be walking with that you are polling friends, perhaps like this: "For my Wednesday night discussion group on religion, we are asking our friends' opinions on the questions: Is there really a heaven, is there only one way to heaven, and is it intolerant to say that there is only one way to heaven. Do you have any opinions on those questions?" Then just take their answers and thank them. Sometimes they will ask what your opinion is. Just see if a discussion ensues. Or tell them next week what the results of your group's polling was...30% says there is no heaven, etc.

OverflowShow highly recommends the book CORNER CONVERSATIONS by Randy Newman, Kregel Publications.