



Main Idea: Jesus claimed that He is the only way to God.

Scriptures: John 14:6; Acts 4:12; John 8:58

Today we're kicking off a brand-new series called **No Cap Faith**. And the reason we're doing this series is pretty simple: you don't get a No Cap Faith without asking real questions. Some people think asking questions means you're doubting or doing faith wrong. That's not true at all. Asking questions means you're growing. It means you're thinking. It means you're not just borrowing someone else's beliefs. You're trying to figure out what you believe and why.

So, this series isn't about fake faith, surface-level answers, or just saying the "right" things because you're supposed to. This is about building a faith that's honest and real. A faith with no cap. A faith that can handle tough questions. If you've ever wondered, *Is this actually true?* or *Why do Christians believe this?* or *What do I really believe?* you're in the right place. It's time to stop pretending and start building a No Cap Faith.

Here's the reality: your friends have opinions. Social media has lots of opinions. The world definitely has opinions. And if you don't know what you believe, you'll eventually believe the loudest voice in the room. The Bible also tells us that our faith isn't meant to be something we keep to ourselves or avoid explaining. Check this out...

15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect... (1 Peter 3:15, NIV)

So, let me ask you this: do you feel prepared to explain your faith? If someone came up to you and asked, *"Why do you believe in Jesus?"* would you know what to say? Or would you freeze up like a deer in the headlights?

And this isn't about having all the answers or winning arguments. This is about knowing your faith is more than something you borrowed from your parents, or your church, or your youth pastor. You can't live off someone

else's faith forever. Your faith must become your faith. It's personal, and it matters that you know what you believe.

[Leader Note: Consider sharing a time when someone asked you a tough faith question and you felt caught off guard or unsure how to answer.]

Now, when it comes to religion and spirituality, let's be real, the world feels loud and confusing. There are literally thousands of religions and belief systems out there. That's overwhelming. And while most people fall into one of the major world religions, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, or Buddhism, everyone still claims to have the truth.

And the message our culture keeps pushing is this: *"Just believe whatever works for you."* Believe what feels right. Believe what makes you happy. Believe what doesn't offend anyone. But here's the problem with that way of thinking: when it comes to truth, what feels good isn't always what's true. And what's popular isn't always what's right.

So, we're starting with one of the biggest and honestly, most uncomfortable questions of Christianity: **If Jesus is the only way to heaven, does that mean all other religions are wrong?** That question can feel awkward. It can feel offensive. It can even feel like something we're not supposed to ask. But ignoring it doesn't make it disappear. And if we're serious about our faith, we can't be afraid of the questions that matter most.

Point #1: Jesus didn't claim to be a way. He claimed to be *The Way*.

Here's something a lot of people miss about Jesus: people didn't hate Him because He taught people to love each other. They didn't want Him dead because He cared for the poor or healed the sick. They hated Him because of what He claimed about Himself. Jesus never said, *"I know a way to God."* He said, *"I am the way."* In John's Gospel, Jesus said this very clearly:

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

That's not vague. That's not symbolic. That's exclusive. Jesus didn't say, *"I speak on God's behalf."* He said:

“If you’ve seen Me, you’ve seen the Father.” (John 14:9, NIV)

That’s why people were angered. Because if Jesus was telling the truth, then not everything else can be the truth. And once you hear a claim like Jesus’, you’re forced to deal with it.

At some point, you have to decide, is Jesus really the only way to the Father and to heaven or is He not? There’s no neutral ground. You can’t say, *“I like Jesus, but I don’t believe what He said about Himself.”* Jesus didn’t leave room for that. He clearly claimed to be the way.

Here’s the reality: contradictory beliefs can’t all be true at the same time. If one belief says salvation is earned, and another says salvation is a gift, both can’t be right. If one belief says Jesus was just a good teacher, and another says He is God, both can’t be true. So, we’re left with two real options: 1. Jesus was wrong. 2. Jesus was telling the truth. There is no middle ground.

All religions can’t be right at the same time, because they make claims that directly contradict each other. For example, Hinduism teaches the existence of millions of gods. Buddhism teaches that there is no god at all. Islam teaches that Jesus was a prophet, but not the Messiah. Christianity teaches that Jesus is God. Those beliefs aren’t just different, they’re opposing. So no, we’re not all saying the same thing, and we’re not all believing the same truth.

Saying there are many ways to God is like saying $1 + 1$ equals 2... or 6... or 30... or whatever you feel like that day. That’s not how truth works. A lot of people just give up and say, *“There are many paths to God,”* because it feels easier. It’s like taking a test with a thousand multiple-choice answers. Eventually, you’d get frustrated, crumple it up, and walk away.

But think about it this way: what if instead of a test, you had a deadly disease and a thousand doctors all claimed they had the cure, but they all contradicted each other? You wouldn’t say, *“They probably all work.”* You’d research. You’d ask questions. You’d dig in because your life depended on it. And here’s the truth: your life does depend on it. Your eternal life depends on it.

The Bible tells us we all have a deadly disease called sin, and one day every one of us will die. There are thousands of voices telling you what to

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