

# Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to  
grow a faith of their own.

**Month 6 Week 3**

**ONLY ONE PATH TO GOD**

READ:

**1 Cor. 6-10**

Heart graffiti:

“Submit to one  
another out of  
reverence for  
Christ.”

Eph. 5:21



We live in a culturally **diverse** society where **tolerance** has come to mean that one person's view is just as right as another. We hear ideas from Hinduism claimed by those who claim the name of Christ and witchcraft accepted as a harmless interest. The boundaries of belief have become blurred until we don't even recognize where one belief stops and another starts. We easily fall for what sounds good, and without much thought slap the label of Christianity onto it. We are a feel-good nation, and that has seeped into our faith. Whatever tickles our ears at the moment becomes our god. We are more careful that the ingredients in our food are wholesome and pure than we are about the beliefs of our faith.

There is a saying that goes, “those who will stand for anything will stand for nothing.” In the name of being tolerant, we keep others from the only truth that can save them. Should we be kind and loving to those who believe differently? For sure! Should we preach the truth, even when it will be rejected? Absolutely!

What does Paul say in 1 Cor. 1:23? \_\_\_\_\_

Muslims accept Jesus as a prophet of Allah, but reject the truth that he was crucified and rose again. That point cannot be **compromised**. The truth that we know is not a secret to be kept among those who agree with us, but a message meant for all.

How can we share that truth? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think Christianity is rejected? \_\_\_\_\_

## IRAQ AND THE MUSLIM RELIGION

We hear about Iraq a lot these days. It is a Middle Eastern country about the size of the state of California. Many American soldiers are in Iraq. There are some Christians in Iraq, but about 97% of the population is Muslim. Muslims are the people that follow the religion of Islam. Muslims believe there is no god but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet. Mohammed was the man who started Islam. He was born in Saudi Arabia in 570 AD. The Muslims believe that Jesus was also a prophet, like Mohammed. They do not believe that Jesus is God or the Son of God. They do not believe that Jesus was crucified or rose from the dead, but that God took Him directly to heaven. They don't believe that Jesus is a Savior, or that man needs a Savior. They believe that Allah will allow them into paradise if they have done more good works than bad works. Muslims do not believe that they can have a personal relationship with Allah. He is seen as a Master, but not a loving Father. Five times a day Muslims stop what they are doing and turn toward Mecca (where Mohammed was born) and pray. Muslims believe that their holy book, the Koran, is the truth. They are taught that the Bible has been changed and so is untrue. Those Muslims that hold most strictly to the words of the Koran feel justified in opposing "infidels" like Jews and Christians.



How is that different than what the Bible teaches Christians? \_\_\_\_\_

Muslims who have become Christians say that Christ's love for them is what persuaded them to leave Islam.

What should we show Muslim people? \_\_\_\_\_

What should we tell Muslim people? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it nicer to tell them the truth that could save them, or to say that whatever they believe is okay? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_





## THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE

What is the basic foundation of truth that we hold to according to 1 Cor. 3:10,11? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Jesus say in John 14:6? \_\_\_\_\_

What does 1 John 2:22 warn us of? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some examples of the “empty words” that Eph. 5:6 warns against? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of words are beneficial for us to speak? \_\_\_\_\_

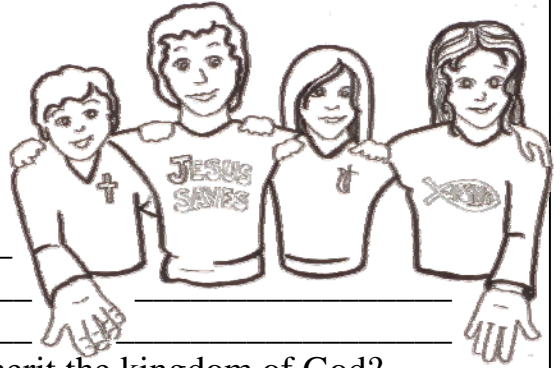
According to Eph. 4:15, how are we to speak the truth? \_\_\_\_\_

When does accepting another’s false religious views stop being nice? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you tend to see the truth more as something to apologize for, or bless someone with? \_\_\_\_\_

## LIVING AS A BELIEVER

Why shouldn’t Christians sue each other according to 1 Cor. 6:6? \_\_\_\_\_



Who will not inherit the kingdom of God? \_\_\_\_\_

How did we gain the kingdom of God? \_\_\_\_\_

What is permissible? \_\_\_\_\_

What is beneficial? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of care are we to take of our weaker brother? \_\_\_\_\_

In 1 Cor. 10:1-5, what was the rock that the Israelites all drank from? \_\_\_\_\_

What happened to them? \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Who are we not to cause to stumble (10:31-33)? \_\_\_\_\_



Do you agree with what this picture says? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever heard someone say, “All paths lead to God”? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Jesus say? \_\_\_\_\_

What should you say? \_\_\_\_\_



# Puzzle Page

## Religions of the World



**WICCA** – a nature based religious system of god and goddess worship, witchcraft, spells and divination.

**ISLAM** – monotheistic belief in the God of Abraham as revealed by the supreme prophet Muhammad and recorded in the Koran.

**SHINTO** – The gods of the Shinto religion are believed to have created Japan as their image of paradise on earth, and the ruler of Japan, the Emperor, is a direct descendent of the Sun-goddess Amaterasu.

**JUDAISM** – monotheistic belief in the God of Abraham, still waiting for the coming of the Messiah.

**HINDUISM** – believes in reincarnation based on morality and performance in a past life. A very open theology in which a person may be polytheistic, monotheistic, pantheistic, agnostic, or atheistic.

**JAIN** – their symbol represents putting a stop to reincarnation through avoiding harm to any living creature.

**BAHA'I** – believe in the oneness of God and of religion as revealed to man through a series of divine Messengers including Abraham, Krishna, Zoraster, Moses, Buddha, Jesus and Mohammad. The most recent of these messengers is Baha'u'llah.

**TAOISM (DAOISM)** – based Lao Tse's philosophy, adopted as the state religion of China in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. About 200 million worldwide. The symbol represents the two forces of the universe: male/ female, enlightenment/ ignorance, etc.

**SIKHISM** – founded by Sri Guru Nanak Cev Ji in the fifteenth century to reconcile beliefs of the Hindu and Islamic religions. Taught that men and women were equal, and that all paths lead to God. About 23 million worldwide.

**CHRISTIANITY** – monotheistic belief in the God of Abraham and the divinity of Jesus Christ who came as a man, was crucified and rose again.

For more information on religions, go to:

<http://altreligion.about.com>





## TIPS for parents and teachers

Many other religions hold elements of truth in their beliefs. Help children think like Paul in using those bits of truth to introduce them to Christ. But also emphasize that the greatest attraction will be the character of Christ and His love. Showing that in our lives is our greatest evangelistic tool!



If you are isolated from the amount of choices of religions and spirituality that our children will encounter when they leave the protective shelter of home, go to a bookstore in a big city and just browse the religion sections. What happens when our young people aren't equipped to deal with this new and enticing array of choices?

### HELPING YOUR WEAKER BROTHER

What does it mean to help your weaker brother?

If possible, show this ESPN news clip of the opposing team in a women's softball game carrying an injured player around the bases. Talk about how we might take "sides" in a church disagreement, but how we can still help each other. How do we apply this to guiding those from another religion to the "bases" of truth so they can make it home with us?

<http://sports.espn.go.com/broadband/video/videopage?videoId=3380875>

### WANT TO READ WHAT I READ?

Koerth-Baker, Maggie, and Michael Kress. "Getting Into Heaven." *Mental Floss* Jan/Feb 2008: 44-56.

Mittleberg, Mark. *Choosing Your Faith*. Colorado Springs: Tyndale House Publishers, 2008.

Messina, Coleen. "What is Islam?." *edhelper.com*. . 10 APR 2008  
<http://www.edhelpblog.com/cgi-bin/vspec.cgi>.

For religious symbols, go to:  
<http://altnreligion.about.com>

We put up a prayer map available from Voice of the Martyrs that shows the countries where Christianity is illegal. For most kids that is a shocking idea. Let them brainstorm about what that means for us.

<http://www.persecution.com/about/index.cfm?action=vom>

It is also interesting to the kids how many major Bible events have taken place in present day Iraq.



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at <http://thelightedjourney.com>