



Skeptical “Exclusivity”

Gather:

What is the goal of small groups? They are designed to equip you to daily, walk closer with Jesus, and to allow the Holy Spirit to work in you and through you to love and serve people well. Ask the following questions to see how it's going.

- How am I doing loving the people God has given me to love over this past week?
- Why is God so good?
- What is something new that God has revealed to me this week about himself or myself?

Change:

- Think back to the message and share what theme, verse, or point stuck out the most? Why? ***Remember to bring your Update from the weekend to refresh your memory.
- Big Idea: It's logically contradictory to believe that divergent paths lead to the same place.
- What has been the biggest insight for you so far in this series? Why?
- Why do you believe people want to believe that all spiritual paths lead to the same place?
- Read John 14:1-6 and Galatians 3:26-29. Remember that Paul was a Jew, but the people Paul was writing to were not, so how do these words actually speak to the all-inclusive invitation of Jesus Christ?
- In what way is holding an exclusive faith position different than denying others the right to believe and practice what they want?
- Discuss as a group how cultural pluralism differs from metaphysical pluralism. Which one is right for Christians to fight for, and which one would render the central Christian message invalid?
- What else has God put on your heart to share with the group? (Marriage, kids, work, temptations, struggles, prayer requests)

Serve:

- This semester we want you to make it a priority to Love God and to Love others. We are asking you to commit to two things. #1 Apply the bible study methods you practice in small group during the rest of the week. INVEST in your relationship with God. #2 Get involved as a group and have an impact on this city! You will notice that we are

highlighting and partnering with a few local organizations that are doing amazing things in Gainesville. If you don't already have people and places to impact in mind, join up with one of our Shift partners. We want to challenge you to spend at least one day/group time per month serving and loving those around you, and making a real impact on this city, all for the sake of the gospel. BY ALL POSSIBLE MEANS!

- Mark Clark, *The Problem of God: Answering A Skeptic's Challenge to Christianity* (Zondervan, 2017) Ch. 1
- Charles Darwin to W. Graham, July 3, 1881, in *The Life and Letters of Charles Darwin*, ed. Francis Darwin (1897; reprint, Boston: Elibron, 2005), 1:285.
- Lee Strobel, *The Case for a Creator: A Journalist Investigates Scientific Evidence That Points Towards God* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004), 70.
- Stephen Jay Gould, *Rocks of Ages: Science and Religion in the Fullness of Life* (New York: Ballantine, 1999), 195