

Discussion 5: Is Jesus Really God?

- In what ways can you identify with any of the stories in *The Curiosity Collective*? What did you find intriguing or compelling?
- Was Jesus a historical figure, in your opinion? Why or why not?
 - * Select, read, and discuss some great historical passages from secular historians who wrote about Jesus, the things he did, and some of the things that happened in his life.
<http://coldcasechristianity.com/2014/is-there-any-evidence-for-jesus-outside-the-bible/>
- What did Leonce mean when he said, “Religion says, ‘I do, therefore I’m loved’ Jesus says, ‘You’re loved, therefore you do’”?
 - * Read Romans 5:6-11. Discuss God’s love, his plan for reconciliation, and the contrast of reconciliation through Jesus’ death to reconciliation through his resurrected life.
- Christians believe that sin separates humanity from God. Yet Jesus, through his death, bridges that gap. Why do you think Jesus had to die in order to accomplish this?
 - * (The Small Group Leader) Read Hebrews chapters 8, 9, and 10, for a full breakdown of how Jesus’ blood bridges the gap. Highlight passages and summarize what the writer of Hebrews is trying to explain to his readers about what Jesus did for us.
- In the video, Bryan says “[Jesus] was resurrected-rose up from the dead-with over five hundred witnesses. They saw him and, based on that encounter, were willing to die in order to testify as to what they saw.” What do you think about his claim?
 - * Read these stories of the deaths of the disciples and discuss how they impact you.
<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/killing-jesus/articles/how-did-the-apostles-die/>
- What do you think about Jesus’s claim to be God?