

ASKING FOR A FRIEND

Tough Questions, Honest Answers

DO ALL ROADS REALLY LEAD TO GOD?

March 29 & 30, 2025

John 14:6 (NLT)

“Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the father except through me.”

The Varying Roads to God:

1. _____ or Taoism - Emphasizes the interconnectedness of all life and the sacredness of all life.
 - **God:** Divine oneness with nature (varying other views)
 - **Path to God:** Becoming one with nature and transcendent above all
 - **Founded:** Late 1960s with a major shift in radical environmentalism in the 1970s
 - **Followers:** 50 million
2. _____ - (Theravada and Mahayana) Teachings of Buddha found in the Four Noble Truths with suffering to the point of liberation. Found in mindfulness and ethical conduct to be free from Samsara (birth, death and rebirth).
 - **God:** Universal Consciousness
 - **Path to God:** Path to Enlightenment through personal experience and understanding
 - **Founded:** 528 BCE
 - **Followers:** 500 million
3. _____ - Christian beliefs characterized by adherence to the authority of the Pope with emphasis on the Eucharist, Sacraments and traditions.
 - **God:** Jehovah, the Father God
 - **Path to God:** Faith + good works + the grace of God
 - **Founded:** Formal recognition in 313 AD
 - **Followers:** 1.2 billion

4. _____ - Adherence to the Five Pillars of Islam with devout practices from the Quran. Total submission to a detached God.

- **God:** Allah
- **Path to God:** Complete devotion to Allah's will
- **Founded:** 610 AD by Muhammad
- **Followers:** 1.8 billion

5. _____ – Monotheistic religion centered around the belief there is one all-powerful God who is the creator and sustainer of the universe. This belief is encapsulated in the Shema, a central declaration of faith found in the Torah.

“Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one.”
Deuteronomy 6:4

- **God:** El Shaddai - God Almighty in omnipotence
- **Founded:** 2000 BC by Abraham
- **Followers:** 16-18 million

6. _____ – Worship of the Triune God through Jesus Christ, His Son's death on the cross, and resurrection from the dead.

- **God:** The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. One God in 3 Persons.
- **Path to God:** Salvation by faith alone in Christ's finished work on the Cross
- **Founded:** At Pentecost by the Holy Spirit after the Ascension of Christ
- **Followers:** 1.1 Billion

All Religions come down to only 2 Paths:

Path 1:

Faith + something (good works, traditions, practices etc.) =

_____.

Path 2:

Faith in Christ alone + Nothing I do =

_____.

HOW TO WALK THE RIGHT ROAD in Love

1 **R**_____ absolute truth compared to other belief systems.

John 8:32 (NLT)

And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

How:

- _____ and develop a deep understanding of the Bible.
- _____ Christianity with all other religions.
- _____ to those of different faiths without the fear of being in the wrong belief.

Romans 14:1 (NLT)

Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong.

Colossians 4:5-6 (NLT)

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

2 **O**_____ differences and dissension with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15-16 (NLT)

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

3 **A**_____ every individual conversation with love for those I'm talking to.

"People won't care how much you _____ until they know how much you _____."

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Luke 6:45 (NLT)

A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.

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Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

4

D_____ to live what I believe more than just talk about it.

James 2:17 (NLT)

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

Matthew 5:16 (NLT)

In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Proverbs 10:9 (NLT)

People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed.

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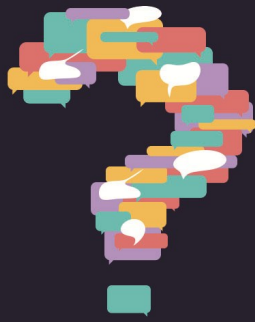
HOW TO WALK THE RIGHT ROAD in Love

Recognize absolute truth compared to other belief systems.

Overcome differences and dissension with gentleness and respect.

Approach every individual conversation with love for those I'm talking to.

Determine to live what I believe more than just talk about it.



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