3rd Sunday after Pentecost, June 9, Study Guide Is Christianity the One, True Religion?

Key Themes

Doubt as a Spiritual Tool: Doubt can be a motivator and a tool in our spiritual lives. It pushes us to seek deeper understanding and stronger faith.

Christians & Non-Christians: The dilemma of ethical, kind-hearted people who are not Christians and their eternal fate. The concern of hypocritical Christians who may not live according to Christ's teachings yet are assumed to be saved.

Heaven and Hell: Examination of biblical teachings on heaven and hell, and how they relate to faith and action.

Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 2:3-6 John 3:16, John 14:6, Romans 6:23 Matthew 25:31-46 Romans 3:23-24, Romans 9:15-16

Quotes for Contemplation

"Whenever I meet someone in need, it's really Jesus in his most distressing disguise."

— Mother Teresa

"I want to throw myself on the mercy of God, relying on nothing other than the mercy of God."

"I believe God respects the goodness of the heart rather than the clearness of the head." — John Wesley

"Show us your scars... I have no scars... Was there nothing worth fighting for?"

Discussion Questions

- How can doubt serve as a tool for spiritual growth?
- What does John 14:6 imply about the exclusivity of salvation through Jesus?
- How does Matthew 25:31-46 broaden the understanding of judgment based on actions?
- Can a non-Christian who lives a moral life be saved? How do we reconcile the existence of unethical Christians with the concept of salvation?
- What practical steps can we take to align our actions with Jesus' teaching on caring for those in need?

Reflection

- Reflect on your personal doubts about salvation, heaven, and hell. How do these doubts influence your faith journey?
- Consider how your actions reflect your beliefs. Are there areas where you can grow in caring for those in need?