



BIG QUESTION

Are all religions true?

CAMPFIRE | WEEK 2 OF 5

Religions

GOD STORY

Paul Preaches in Athens
Acts 17:16–34

KEY VERSE

Don't worry about anything.
No matter what happens,
tell God about everything.
Philippians 4:6a (NIRV)

LEADER TIPS

- This series steps into topical teaching with big questions about prayer, scripture and science, denominations, and more. Because it gets into some meaty subjects, please be sure to read this lesson plan in advance and be prepared. You may get questions you don't have answers for—that's okay! Be honest with the students and learn together.
- An additional resource for leaders is available for this week's Big Question. Please take some time to review it.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (7 minutes)

Chat about the students' music and sports favourites. Tie in that conversation with the religions that other people follow, then introduce today's Big Question.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Do a jumping challenge to illustrate that everyone has value.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4 | APPLICATION ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Look at Acts 17:28 together, then review some famous quotations and discuss how knowing Jesus changes each perspective.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Brainstorm a list of ways that people from other religions try to get God to be happy with them. Contrast them with what Romans 5:8 tells us.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL (2 minutes)

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- Direct the conversation toward what the students love about the music/team they prefer rather than bashing other people's preferences!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Welcome the students and gather them together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week is going.
- Ask:
 - What's your favourite sport or music genre?
 - What would you say or do if you thought someone loved the "wrong" team or band?
 - At your school, which different religions do other people follow?
- Depending on the size of your group, invite the students to share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce this week's Big Question: **Are all religions true?**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Prizes
- Masking tape

INSTRUCTIONS

- Hold up one of the prizes for everyone to see.
- Ask who thinks they can jump the highest to win the prize.
- Give a small piece of masking tape to each student who wants to try jumping.
- Direct them to take turns jumping up and placing their tape as high as they can on a wall.
- Award a prize to whoever gets their tape the highest.
- Tell the student whose tape is lowest on the wall how awesome they are. Let them know that you value them just like God does! Give them a prize, too.
- Explain that many people see religion as a kind of competition in behaving well to get a reward. However, Jesus came to us and loves us as we are!



BIG QUESTION

Are all religions true?

CAMPFIRE | WEEK 2 OF 5

God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Paul Preaches in Athens, Acts 17:16–34)
 - Life Story (Kids sit around a campfire and chat about some big questions. This week's question is: **Are all religions true?**)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - What's the Key Verse for the Campfire series? (Philippians 4:6a)
 - What stood out to you in today's Life Story? How about the God Story?



My Story

4 | Application Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

LEADER TIPS

- Depending on your group, it may be helpful to divide the students into smaller huddles to discuss the quotations.
- For the Confucius quotation, contrast what he said with Jesus' teachings. Confucius said not to do bad to others whereas Jesus asks us to love proactively as he does (do to others as you would have them do to you).

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- b. Guide the students to look up Acts 17:28.
- c. Read the verse aloud.
- d. Explain that when Paul introduced the people of Athens to Jesus, he borrowed words from a well-known poet. He used something familiar to them. If Paul was part of today's world, he might draw from inspirations such as music or TV shows to point people towards Jesus.
- e. Read aloud the quotations on the above right, pausing after each one to discuss:
 - What's true about this quotation?
 - How does knowing Jesus add to or change this point of view?

Quotations:

- "Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good." Prophet Mohamed (Surah An-Nahl 16:128)
- "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others." Confucius (Analects XV.24)
- "I just talked to Jesus / He said, 'What up Yeezus? / ... I know he the most high / But I am a close high.'" Kanye West ("I Am a God")
- "I'm a host of imperfection / And you see past all that / I'm a peasant by some standards / But in your eyes I'm a queen." Beyoncé ("Flaws and All")



My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Craft paper
- Wall-safe tape
- Marker
- Bibles

LEADER TIP

- Hang the craft paper where everyone can see it and you can access it easily.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Explain that many religions focus on doing things to get to God. It's kind of like trying to climb to the top of a mountain.
- Draw a tall mountain on the craft paper.
- Ask: What are some things people from different religions and worldviews do to try and get God to be happy with them?
- Lead the students to brainstorm ideas. Write them on the paper so they look like paths going up the mountain.
- Emphasize that following Jesus is different from all these ways to get up the mountain. We can read about it in the book of Romans. The Romans were one of the first churches. They had plenty of questions about how to follow Jesus. A pastor named Paul wrote them a letter to help them.
- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Guide the students to look up Romans 5:8.
- Discuss:
 - According to this verse, what did we do to get God to love us?
 - Why did God send Jesus to die for us?
 - How could we show this on our mountain picture?
- Pray together. Thank Jesus for loving us and dying for us before we did anything!

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards

INSTRUCTIONS

- Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
- Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.