

Christians Might Be Crazy Aren't Christians Impudent Exclusionists?

September 26, 2021

Christians seem to think they've got the corner on truth. They're the only ones who are right. Not only that, they think they're the only ones going to heaven – everyone else is “Go straight to hell; do not pass Go!, do not collect \$200.” Who do they think they are?!

John 14:4–6

1. Our culture cherishes _____ and _____.
2. Christianity has set _____, created _____, and demands _____.
3. There are three B's of Christianity: _____, _____, and _____.

My Count Me In! Commitment

- I'm ready to make a commitment to joining The Way with Jesus
- I'm ready to make a commitment to the Directions Discipleship Course
- I'll invite someone to join me next week as Pastor Michael begins teaching

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper

Week of September 26

Christians May Be Crazy: Their Exclusivity Claims

Scripture: John 14:4–6

Introduction: Christianity has been making exclusivity claims long before there even was a church. Jesus himself regularly claimed to be the gate, the narrow way, the light of the world, the truth, and the only door to the Father. But he also claimed to be The Way, a catchphrase that both the church and the Jewish community picked up on. Before Paul was Paul, he was a Pharisee who actively pursued and persecuted followers of The Way (Acts 9:1–2). But is being exclusive a good thing?

1. Besides Christianity, what other religions make exclusivity claims?
2. Read John 14:1–6. Why do you think Thomas was so confused that he didn't know where Jesus was going and didn't know the way to get there?
3. A better translation of 14:4 is "The place I am going, you know the way." How is this emphasis different than the more traditional English translation?
4. Why do you think Jesus emphasized "the way" so much in this passage?
5. Dr. Bill said that Jesus made two significant exclusivity claims in this passage. What were they? Why do you think Jesus was adamant about these claims?
6. Traditionally, the church has focused on the 2-B's – Believe and be Baptized. Do you think Dr. Bill is correct that Jesus appears to add a third B – Behave? Why or why not?
7. Why do you think Christianity is so often singled out by our culture for its exclusivity claims? Why do you think other religions are *not* singled out?
8. How is Christianity exclusive? How is it inclusive?