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You can download the DISCUSSION GUIDE here:
"It Doesn't Matter What You Believe"

"It doesn't matter what you believe, the only thing that matters is that you are happy."

"It doesn't matter what you believe, I'm just glad you found something that works for you because all paths lead to God."

"It doesn't matter what you believe, the important thing is that you are a good person."

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE?

John 18:37-38 [Jesus said] "Everyone who is of **the truth** listens to my voice." Pilate replied, "**What is truth?**"

Romans 1:25 ESV They exchanged the truth about God for a lie...

Views of Jesus in major religions:

- Islam: Prophet, not divine.
- Buddhism: Possibly a Buddhist, enlightened teacher.
- New Age: Reincarnated being, Enlightening Master, Wise Teacher
- Hinduism: Seen as a holy man, wise teacher, or even a 'god'

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "**I am the way and the truth and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me."

Hebrews 13:8 ESV Jesus Christ is the same **yesterday and today and forever.**

The unchanging nature of Christ signifies the unchanging nature of God's truth.

Americans Are Most Likely to Base Truth On Feelings

A Barna survey concluded that by a 3-to-1 margin (64% vs. 22%) adults said truth is always:

...relative to a person's situation.

The perspective was even more lopsided among teenagers.

People are most likely to make their moral and ethical decisions on: the basis of whatever feels right or comfortable in a situation.

The Bible or religious teachings were primary for a small percentage of adults and teens.

While "professing" born-again Christians were statistically different from non-born-again individuals, the differences were minimal; a minority of born-again believe in absolute truth; and a minority base their moral choices on Scripture

Acts 17:21 *All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there **spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.***

The Athenians' pursuit of new ideas shows the shifting nature of human beliefs.

1 John 5:20 ESV *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so **that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.***

John 17:17 ESV ***Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.***

Some 65 million copies of the Bible are brought or distributed in the U.S. every year--nothing else is a close second.

The average house has at least three.

People **cheer the Bible, buy the Bible, give the Bible, own the Bible**--they just don't actually read the Bible.

Jesus emphasizes the sanctifying power of God's word.

- Without God's truth, it's impossible to be sanctified.
 - Without sanctification, it's impossible to be holy.
 - Without holiness, it's impossible to mimic God's character.
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Ephesians 4:17–24 (ESV) *Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, **due to their hardness of heart**. 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. 20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as **the truth is in Jesus**, 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*