

I've Been Meaning to Ask Discussion Questions Week Two

- 1) At the beginning of this week's message, Pastor Aaron stated that at Central, "We believe in one God, who exists in three persons- the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe Jesus Christ is fully God and became fully man to save a lost world. We believe that the Holy Spirit guides us and that Christ is present in communion and baptism." Contemplate these truths. Why is it vital to our faith to anchor ourselves to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit first and foremost through Scripture, prayer, and the church?
- 2) 1 John 4: 7-12 says, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us." When we focus on answering the question, "Do all religions lead to the same God?" we can lose sight of loving one another. Pastor Aaron shared several historical examples in the message, like the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, and the Holocaust. Why must we focus on Jesus and His way of love and sacrifice in every question we bring to the Father?
- 3) In the message, Pastor Aaron reminded us that if all religions lead to the same God, Jesus' life, burial, death, and resurrection would not have been needed. John 14:6 states that Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus is the only way to God, but our lives should not be focused on proving this point. Our calling as followers of Jesus is to shine His love into the world. As we do, others will see Him and want to believe, know, and follow Him too. What are you actively doing to Love God and Love People in this world? How do people experience Jesus in you each day?
- 4) Philippians 2:9-11 says, "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Until God shows us what this looks like on earth, Pastor Aaron helps us see we must (1) Choose humility over hate. (2) Choose curiosity over critique. How can this be true of you in 2024? What is God speaking to you through this message by the Holy Spirit's work within you?