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September 8, 2019

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM  
**Aren’t All Religions The Same?**

**Andy Tuel**

**3 Words We Wrestle With:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Why is Jesus Different?**

1. Because of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Because of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Other Resources:

“The Reason for God” by Tim Keller

“.Jesus among other Gods” by Ravi Zacharias

“The Case for Christ” by Lee Strobel

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**Introduction:**

The “Elephant in the Room” is a series of messages that have been crafted based on the most common questions provided by River Ridgers. The title of the series can be slightly misleading, because the idea of an “elephant in the room” means we try to avoid the discussion. Some of the topics would fall in that category, but some are just questions that we want to know.

**Getting Started:**

1. Is the word “religion” a positive word or a negative word? Why?
2. What do you think when you hear the phrase “all religions lead to the same place”?

**Digging Deeper:**

Andy said there are three reasons why a lot of people like to say all religions are the same. And three words we need to wrestle with: Tolerance, Exclusion, and Arrogance.

1. Spend some time discussing each word. How have these words or their meanings affected you in the past?
2. Which word gives you the most uncomfortable feeling? Why?

**Read John 14:5-8, Mark 14:61-62, John 3:16-17**

1. How is Jesus recorded in addressing this topic?
2. If you were a skeptic, what questions would you have about Christianity?

Andy said we all eventually have to wrestle with the question, what do you do with Jesus? He is either a Liar, Lunatic, or Lord.

1. Discuss this trilemma (liar, lunatic, lord). What’s it mean?

**Taking A Next Step:**

1. What area of your life would you say you live like you believe He is a liar or a lunatic?
2. What one step can you take this week to change that?
3. I give responsibility to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to ask me about it.

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