

What's Missing from Our Gospel: The Forgotten Key to Engaging Pluralist Society

How has the church effectively allowed pluralism to so dominate our culture, and what can be done now to engage our pluralist neighbours? What are we not understanding from a biblical worldview that will help us to engage these neighbours well? This workshop will investigate the potential of a neglected resource found in the gospel, and look at how we might use it for more effective mission.

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I. Do we worship the same God?

A. The Wheaton controversy and Miroslav Volf

‘A deep chasm of misunderstanding, dislike, and even hatred separates many Christians and Muslims today. Christian responses to Allah – understood here as the God of the Qur’an – will either widen that chasm or help bridge it. If for Christians Allah is a foreign and false god, all bridge building will suffer.’¹

B. The God of the Bible and the God of the Koran

Say not ‘Trinity’. Desist; it will be better for you: for God is one God. Glory be to Him: (far exalted is He) above having a son.²

Say: ‘He, Allah, is One.
Allah is He on Whom all depend.
He begets not, nor is He begotten.
And none is like Him.’³

¹ Miroslav Volf, *Allah: A Christian Response* (New York: HarperOne, 2011), 1

² Surah 4.171

³ Surah 112

II. How the Trinity sets Christianity apart

A. The glory of God

B. The nature of salvation in Christianity

C. The nature of eschatology in Christianity

Suggested Readings:

Michael Reeves, *The Good God: Enjoying Father, Son, and Spirit* (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2012) / *Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2013)

See the many resources available at www.uniontheology.org/resources/life/world-religions