

Honest Answers to Honest Questions: The Uniqueness of Christ

It is becoming increasingly challenging to present the unique claims of Christ in western culture. To do so risks being seen as intolerant and politically incorrect. How can we present Jesus as the only way without sounding intolerant and bigoted? We will look at how to respond to this issue with grace and warmth but decisive clarity.

Michael Ots is an evangelist and apologist based in Bournemouth, England. He speaks at University mission weeks across Europe as well as training students in evangelism. He is the author of two books, the first of which, *What kind of God?*, has been translated into Romanian, Korean, Serbian, Spanish and Russian. He is also actively involved in the evangelistic ministry of his local church.

Lindsay Brown is a native of Wales. He studied European History at Oxford (MA) and Theology at the Free Faculty of Theology at Vaux-sur-Seine, near Paris, under Henri Blocher. He has been involved in student ministry with IFES for over 30 years, serving variously as European Regional Secretary, International General Secretary and currently heads up the newly formed FEUER (Fellowship of Evangelists in the Universities of Europe) - a network formed by a joint effort of UCCF, the British student movement and IFES, the international evangelical student body - which has as its aspiration the renewal of public communication of the gospel in the universities of Europe. Its current goal is to host 36 university mission weeks in 36 cities in 36 countries in 36 months and to develop a Europe-wide network of at least 60 university evangelists. He will be leading the Evangelism Network.

I. Introduction - the problem of perceived intolerance

II. 4 questions about pluralism

- 1) What is the evidence for that view?
- 2) What about the differences between religions?
- 3) What do we mean by tolerance?
- 4) Is it possible to get away from exclusive claims?

III. So where do we go? 3 reasons to start with Jesus:

1) Unique in the way you can investigate him

2) Unique in what he claims about himself

3) Unique in what he offers

Recommended Reading:

Green, Michael. *But Don't All Religions Lead to God?: Navigating the Multi-faith Maze*. (Baker, 2002).

Green, Michael. *Jesus for Sceptics*. (UCCF, 2013).

Orr-Ewing, Amy. *But Is It Real?: Answering 10 Common Objections to the Christian Faith*. (IVP, 2008).

Zacharias, Ravi K. *Jesus among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message*. (Word Pub., 2000).