

# FOCUS Bible Study

## Tough Questions



"It is reasoned that if God were all-loving and all-powerful he'd be willing and able to put an end to suffering. The fact that suffering continues in the world is proof, *so it is thought*, that an all-loving, all-powerful God does not exist..." J. Dickson

## **Does God really exist? How can I know he is real?**

### **Discussion question.**

What are some arguments *against* the existence of God.

What are some arguments *for* the existence of God.

*Rate the strength on each of these arguments from 1 to 5.  
1 being the weakest and 5 being the strongest.*

**What does the Bible say?** (Explore the first 2 passages and the other two only if you have time)

### **Romans 1 :18-23**

What has God revealed about himself and how has he revealed it?

What did people do with this knowledge?

Why do you think people want to suppress this knowledge of God ?

### **John 10:22-38**

What did Jesus claim about himself?

According to Jesus, how did he back up those claims ?

From your own observations, how convincing do you think Jesus claims are?

How did people respond to Jesus and what were the reasons they gave?

***\*Go to Think and discuss***

***Do These Passages only if you have time. (need at least extra 15-20 min )***

**Read John 1:1-5, 10-14**

How does this passage describe God?

What is the relationship between God and the world?

According to this passage, how did the world respond to God?

**Acts 17:24-34**

How is God described in this passage?

How does God want humanity to respond?

What proof has God given to humanity?

**Think and discuss.**

What does the Bible say about God's existence and how He makes himself known ?

According to the Bible, how did humanity respond to God ?  
Why did they respond this way?

What evidences would be sufficient to show you that God exists? How has this study changed your views (if any) ?

How is Jesus relevant whenever we want to find the existence of God? (Hebrews 1:1-3)

What are people's motives when they ask about the existence of God? Which of these motives sums up your motive and give your reasons (or motives which you have encountered) ? *(break into 3 smaller groups to discuss – share your answers with the group).*

- a. **Motive 1** : To challenge and deny the existence of God.
- b. **Motive 2** : Does not really care if God existed. I.e. Indifferent.
- c. **Motive 3**: Genuinely interested in wanting to find out.

\*note for Christians : How would you answer differently for each of these motives?

### **APPLICATION**

*What implications would there be for humanity (and you) if God really existed ? What things do we need to change ?*

Select one of the following to discuss.( or in pairs again)

How we live our lives and what is most important in life?

How we treat each other ?

How we treat our environment?

How we face death and suffering?

**Pray.**