

DINNER WITH A PERFECT STRANGER
ONE-EVENING GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

(version 1)

1. What was your initial reaction to the premise of the book? If you received an invitation like Nick received, what would be your reaction and response?
2. Do you ever wish you could have some sit-down-and-talk time with God? Why? If you could sit down one-on-one with Jesus, what are two questions you would like to ask him?
3. From the characterization in the book, how would you describe Jesus? What kind of person is he? What qualities of his stand out to you the most?
4. Is there such a thing as actual reality? Why is it important for our belief system to correspond to reality? What difference does it make if it does not? What's wrong with saying about someone's belief system that "It's true for them"?
5. How is belief in God not a blind leap of faith? How is belief in Jesus as God in the flesh not a blind leap of faith?
6. How do the gospel accounts make it clear that Jesus was not simply a good religious teacher?
7. What is unique about Jesus compared to the founders of other world religions?
8. On page 28, Jesus makes the statement, "You don't want what you're ultimately trusting to be wrong." What are you ultimately trusting concerning your eternal destiny?
9. Why in the book does Jesus say there is no path to God? What is the distinction he draws between "path" and "way"? What is the way?
10. Why isn't God interested in having people try to perform for him? What is the implication of this for your own life? Why do people so easily believe that their efforts at being good will gain acceptance for them with God?
11. Where would you place yourself on the Mother-Teresa-to-Hitler scale? Where does that put you in relation to God's perfect standard? Why?
12. How would you answer the question that Jesus poses on page 53: "On what basis are you going to stand before a perfectly holy God and say that you've been good enough?"
13. Which of the following aspects of the good news of Jesus Christ appeals to you the most:

- getting your sins forgiven
- being with God in eternity
- have a real relationship with God now
- receiving a changed heart with new desires from God
- God living in you now and forever

14. What is the personal application for you of Revelation 3:20, the Bible verse that the book closes with?

15. If you have not received the free gift of eternal life from God that Jesus explains on page 58, what is keeping you from doing so now?