

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

## GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHRISTIANS AND MORMONS | WEEK 2-JAN. 14/15, 2012 (BOB MERRITT)

### INTRODUCTION

There are a lot of different religions in the world, and although many have similarities, there are many differences as well. This past weekend, we took a close look at Mormonism and how it compares to Christianity. Pastor Bob taught through some similarities, but also concluded that Christianity and Mormonism are "far from being the same fish." Let the questions and Scripture below help guide your discussion on this week's message.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your faith background? Were you raised in a Christian home? If not, what type of religion (or lack of) was taught in your home? How has this impacted your life and how you relate to others?
2. Did you learn anything new about Mormonism this weekend? What came as a surprise to you? Discuss your reaction to the similarities and differences in the two faiths. Knowing these, how can you best reach out to people in your life who come from the Mormon faith?
3. **Read 1 Peter 3:13-17.** These verses teach us to always be ready to explain the hope we have in Christ. If someone came to you with questions or challenges about what you believe, would you be ready to defend your faith? How can you continually be learning and growing in this area?
4. Consider the way that Mormons live. Bob's son explained it by saying they are the kindest, most moral and intelligent people he knows at school. How does that challenge you to live out your faith and represent Christianity in a positive way to those around you? We know Ephesians 2:8-9 teaches we are saved by grace through faith, but how has your life changed since deciding to follow Jesus?
5. Have you ever discussed your faith with someone who doesn't agree with you? What have you learned through your experiences with them? Have you found any "best practices" in showing kindness while also remaining grounded in truth?

### THINK ABOUT IT

Bob wrapped up his message with this reminder: You must know what you believe and why because your life depends on it. Surround yourself with opportunities, environments and people that can help you learn more about your faith and what you believe. The truth is...you're never done growing.

### COMMIT TO MEMORY

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16



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