



Real Issues  
Is God Really...  
*Luke 13:1-35 NLT*

Misconceptions about God:

1. **Suffering is in direct proportion to your sin.** *Luke 13:1-3*
2. **If you suffer tragedy it is judgment from God.** *Luke 13:4-5*
3. **God takes pleasure in judging sinners.** *Luke 13:6-9, 1 Timothy 2:1-4*
4. **Being God's people means you get to make the rules.** *Luke 13:10-17*
5. **Ministry has to be big in order to be effective.** *Luke 13:18-21*
6. **All roads lead to God** *Luke 13:22-30, Hebrews 11:6*
7. **Being God's people means you get a free ticket to heaven.** *Luke 13:31-35*

**Is God really ready to accept you?**

**Is God really wanting me?**

**Is God really willing to forgive everything I have done?**

Slides

Real Issues

Is God Really...  
*Luke 13:1-35 NLT*

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1. **Chameleons change color to match their surroundings.**  
**FALSE.**
2. **The Great Wall of China can be seen from space.**  
**FALSE**
3. **Different parts of your tongue detects different tastes.**  
**FALSE**
4. **The Chinese people did not create fortune cookies.**  
**TRUE.**
5. **A toilet's flush will change direction depending upon which hemisphere it is in.**  
**FALSE**
6. **People use just 10 per cent of their brain.**  
**FALSE**
7. **A mother bird will not reject a baby bird if you handle it.**  
**TRUE.**
8. **A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.**  
**FALSE**
9. **You can go swimming right after you eat. You do not need to wait an hour.**  
**TRUE**
10. **Bulls are enraged by the color red.**  
**FALSE**
11. **It is ok to wake a sleepwalker.**  
**TRUE**
12. **Fish only grow as big as their enclosure.**  
**FALSE**

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Common Misconceptions:

1. **That God rises above all religions and a piece of God is found in each.**

2. God is "the big man upstairs" who is not really involved in affairs here on earth.
3. Good things happen to good people, bad things happen to bad people.
4. There is a perfect will of God, one choice in every situation that is right and the rest are wrong.
5. If you live a good life, or are born into a Christian household you will go to heaven.
6. Christianity is all about rules and regulations.
7. Religion is a crutch to get through hard times.
8. If I don't feel God's presence in my life or if I suffer then I must be failing or God doesn't love me.

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*Luke 13:1-3 NLT About this time Jesus was informed that Pilate had murdered some people from Galilee as they were offering sacrifices at the Temple. <sup>2</sup> "Do you think those Galileans were worse sinners than all the other people from Galilee?" Jesus asked. "Is that why they suffered?" <sup>3</sup> Not at all! And you will perish, too, unless you repent of your sins and turn to God.*

Misconceptions about God:

1. **Suffering is in direct proportion to your sin.**

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*Luke 13:4-5 NLT And what about the eighteen people who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them? Were they the worst sinners in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, and I tell you again that unless you repent, you will perish, too."*

Misconceptions about God:

2. **If you suffer tragedy it is judgment from God.**

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*Luke 13:6-9 NLT Then Jesus told this story: "A man planted a fig tree in his garden and came again and again to see if there was any fruit on it, but he was always disappointed. <sup>7</sup> Finally, he said to his gardener, 'I've waited three years, and there hasn't been a single fig! Cut it down. It's just taking up space in the garden.' <sup>8</sup> "The gardener answered, 'Sir, give it one more chance. Leave it another year, and I'll give it special attention and plenty of fertilizer. <sup>9</sup> If we get figs next year, fine. If not, then you can cut it down.'"*

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Misconceptions about God:

3. **God takes pleasure in judging sinners.**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4 NLT I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. <sup>2</sup> Pray this way for kings and all who are*

*in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.*

*Luke 13:10-17 NLT One Sabbath day as Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, <sup>11</sup> He saw a woman who had been crippled by an evil spirit. She had been bent double for eighteen years and was unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, He called her over and said, “Dear woman, you are healed of your sickness!” <sup>13</sup> Then He touched her, and instantly she could stand straight. How she praised God! <sup>14</sup> But the leader in charge of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus had healed her on the Sabbath day. “There are six days of the week for working,” He said to the crowd. “Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord replied, “You hypocrites! Each of you works on the Sabbath day! Don’t you untie your ox or your donkey from its stall on the Sabbath and lead it out for water? <sup>16</sup> This dear woman, a daughter of Abraham, has been held in bondage by Satan for eighteen years. Isn’t it right that she be released, even on the Sabbath?” <sup>17</sup> This shamed His enemies, but all the people rejoiced at the wonderful things He did.*

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Misconceptions about God:

**4. Being God’s people means you get to make the rules.**

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Misconceptions about God:

**5. Ministry has to be big in order to be effective.**

*Luke 13:18-21 NLT Then Jesus said, “What is the Kingdom of God like? How can I illustrate it? <sup>19</sup> It is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make nests in its branches.” <sup>20</sup> He also asked, “What else is the Kingdom of God like? <sup>21</sup> It is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.”*

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*Luke 13:22-30 NLT Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as He went, always pressing on toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> Someone asked Him, “Lord, will only a few be saved?” He replied, <sup>24</sup> “Work hard to enter the narrow door to God’s Kingdom, for many will try to enter but will fail. <sup>25</sup> When the master of the house has locked the door, it will be too late. You will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Lord, open the door for us!’ But He will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’ <sup>26</sup> Then you will say, ‘But we ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup> And He will reply, ‘I tell you, I don’t know you or where you come from. Get away from me, all you who do evil.’ <sup>28</sup> “There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, for you will see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, but you will be thrown out. <sup>29</sup> And people will come from all over the world—from east and west, north and south—to take their places in the Kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> And note this: Some who*

*seem least important now will be the greatest then, and some who are the greatest now will be least important then.”*

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*Hebrews 11:6 NLT And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.*

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Misconceptions about God:

**6. All roads lead to God**

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*Luke 13:31-35 NLT At that time some Pharisees said to Him, “Get away from here if you want to live! Herod Antipas wants to kill you!”<sup>32</sup> Jesus replied, “Go tell that fox that I will keep on casting out demons and healing people today and tomorrow; and the third day I will accomplish my purpose.<sup>33</sup> Yes, today, tomorrow, and the next day I must proceed on my way. For it wouldn’t do for a prophet of God to be killed except in Jerusalem!<sup>34</sup> “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones God’s messengers! How often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen protects her chicks beneath her wings, but you wouldn’t let me.<sup>35</sup> And now, look, your house is abandoned. And you will never see me again until you say, ‘Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!’”*

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Misconceptions about God:

**7. Being God’s people means you get a free ticket to heaven.**

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**Is God really ready to accept you? Yes. (CHECK MARK)**



**Is God really wanting me? Yes. (CHECK MARK)**

**Is God really willing to forgive everything I have done? Yes. (CHECK MARK)**