

HAS CHRISTIANITY DONE MORE HARM THAN GOOD?

A Conversation with John Dickson

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Discussion Questions:

1. According to Dr. Dickson, about 40 percent of Americans would say religion does more harm than good. Is that about what you would have guessed? Why do you think that number is what it is?
2. Why is it important to recognize the sins of Christianity throughout history?
3. Read **Matthew 7:3–5**. What observations do you have?
4. There are numerous times where Christianity has gotten it wrong throughout the centuries, but there is always a person or movement that offers a course correction. Where is Christianity getting it wrong today? What kind of course correction is needed?
5. One Christian value that changed the world's perspective was that every person has equal value, regardless of capability. What are some other Christian values that have impacted how most everyone thinks?
6. Early believers relied on four things to influence the world: prayer, persuasion, service, and suffering. Does your life intersect with those four things? How so? If not, in what ways could it?
7. Dr. Dickson compared Christianity to a beautiful piece of music. If it's played correctly, it sounds wonderful. But played poorly, it doesn't represent the composer's original intent. How well is our church playing the music of Christianity? How about the church at large in our country? How about you?