



## **Whac-A-Mole: Week 4 — “Universalism”**

**CONNECT:** Do you consider yourself to be a directionally-challenged person? When was the last time you were lost?

### **GROW:**

1. **Read Genesis 3:1-7, Luke 9:23-25, and Matthew 7:13-14.** The concept of free will (or choice) is first evident in the book of Genesis and is a recurring theme throughout the Bible. Jesus gives us a choice to follow Him or not and explains where each path leads. What are some of the barriers you’ve personally encountered or seen others struggle with when it comes to following Jesus?
2. Although there is much debate on whether Hell is literal or allegorical, the fact of the matter is Jesus spoke more about Hell than anyone else in the Bible. Who first introduced you to the concept of Hell? What was your initial impression?
3. **Read John 14:1-7, Acts 4:12, and James 4:12.** Passages such as these can be a stumbling block for people who believe Jesus is a way, a truth, and a life rather than *the* way, *the* truth, and *the* life. How can we present these biblical truths with grace to those who choose to not follow Jesus?
4. **Read Ecclesiastes 3:16-17, Romans 12:9, and Romans 12:17-21.** We all have family members, friends, co-workers, and classmates who reject Jesus, so there can be tension for us to believe in a God who punishes non-Christians. It’s often asked, “How can a loving God send people to Hell?” When we survey the chaos and evil that exist in this fallen world, how should this change our perspective on God’s love in terms of justice?
5. **Read Titus 3:3-8, 2 Peter 3:3-9, and Revelation 21:1-4.** A pastor once said, “When it comes to Hell, we can’t afford to be wrong.” Stated another way, this isn’t simply about doctrinal debate but people’s eternal destinies. Although we know a day of judgment is coming, we do see God’s desire for everyone to have an opportunity to turn from the path of destruction they’re on and to turn to Him. How has the hope of Heaven changed your life? How should this hope compel us to share the gospel with others?

**PRAY:** Read, pray, and meditate on **Ezekiel 11:19-20**. Pray specifically by name for people who you deeply desire to know the love of God.

**NEXT:** There’s no time like the present. Look for an opportunity to share the gospel with someone in your sphere of influence this week.