

QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

The French philosopher Foucault writes:

Truth is a thing of this world: it is produced only by virtue of multiple forms of constraint. And it induces regular effects of power.[8](#)

Foucault is saying that truth claims are power plays. What is your reaction to this statement? Is it true?

One of the participants on the video said, “I’m not exactly sure what freedom means.” How do people you know define freedom? What is your definition of freedom? Divide into pairs to answer these questions and then share your answers with the group.

Some people argue that Christianity, with its rules and exclusive truth claims, is repressive to both individuals and communities because it divides communities rather than unites them and because it diminishes our humanity by robbing us of our freedom to determine our own path. How would you respond?

One of the participants on the video said,

“I believe there are some rules or stories that basically think that homosexuality is a sin. I think that might be a rule that in spirit was trying to be helpful, but played out in contemporary society can be very problematic.”

How would you respond?

Aldous Huxley says,

The philosopher who finds no meaning in the world is not concerned exclusively with a problem in pure metaphysics. He is also concerned to prove that there is no valid reason why he personally should not do as he wants to do.[10](#)

What are the implications of his line of reasoning?

Dr. Keller said on the video,

“It is a little hard to understand how rules actually function inside the Christian faith. They actually don’t operate the same way that rules operate in other philosophical systems or religious systems.”

Explain.