



## Second-Hand Jesus: When Religion Becomes Manipulative Exchange 21 January 2014 - Discussion Questions

1. What is one misconception about God that you used to have?
2. What are some common myths about God that you hear in the secular world?
3. What sources of authority have contributed to our (mis)understanding of God? Do these sources still have some validity?
4. What are some forms of modern idolatry?
5. Is it possible to know when we're actually undermining God's authority? Or is it a tendency that we only become aware of after the fact?
6. How can we have assurance of God's love for us even when He doesn't give us what we want?
7. How do you know when you have security in God? How do you know when you don't?
8. We say that obedience can be a form of legalism or manipulation, but what makes it manipulation as opposed to faith? How do you obey in a way that is not legalistic or manipulative?
9. We are all unique. How do we balance our individual experience and view of God with others'?
10. Is there a portion of Scripture that you're not familiar with? Is there a portion that you don't like? Why?

### Bonus Questions:

"Learn and obey the rules very well so you will know how to break them properly." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?

"The very reason why God has decided to hide himself is that we might have an idea of what he is like." (Simon Weil) Why is God so difficult to know?