



The Development of Doctrine in Christianity
The Exchange 25 April 2015

1. The Greek definition of doctrine in 1 Tim 3:16,17 is *didaskalia*: instruction, teaching, principle, doctrine. Are there any principles or doctrines that you currently live by? Have they changed over your life time?
2. All religions have doctrines or teachings. See if your group can name one or two from the main world religions (eg Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity). Does atheism have any doctrines or teachings?
3. Do you think that the doctrines of each religion are well understood by their believers?
4. Within each religion there are factions/groups like Sunni vs Shiite Muslims and Orthodox vs Catholic vs Protestant Christians as well as different 'brands' of Buddhism. Are these factions primarily due to differences in doctrine or there something else?
5. Do you think it is important to know all the teachings or doctrines of an institution before becoming a part of it? How in depth do we need our knowledge to be?
6. What are the main Christian doctrines that are common to all churches?
7. What are the main doctrines that Seventh-day Adventists have that are different to other churches?
8. Is it better to just forget about our differences within Christianity and focus on what we have in common rather than focus on what makes us unique?
9. What is a good way to learn about Seventh-day Adventist teachings (general and unique)?
10. How can we be sure that Seventh-day Adventist teachings are Biblical and true?
11. How can we share the doctrines of the Bible without coming across holier-than-thou?