World Religions - Catholic

Who has some Catholic background?

Not all Catholics are lost Some have put their faith is Jesus *Some people in Protestant churches are lost

What we have in common? -Believe in the God of the Bible -Believe the Bible is God's Word -Believe Jesus is God -Believe Jesus died for our sins

Differences

-The infallibility of the Pope -at certain times the Pope can make decrees that are equal with the Bible -tradition is equal with the Bible -Our Motto: "the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible" -nothing Doug or I say is as authoritative as the Bible

-The sacraments (visible rites and practices commanded by Jesus) 1) Baptism -usually by pouring -initiation into the Christian faith -necessary for salvation -3 days after birth

2) Confirmation -another part of initiation into the Catholic faith -canidate takes classes to learn about Catholisim -complete community service -candidate is anointed with oil at a special ceremony

3) Eucharist
-bread and the cup part of communion
-obligated to be taken every Sunday and on Holy Days
-can be taken more often
-transubstantiation

4) Confession and Penance
-good to a certified priest on a regular basis to tell him your sins
-the priest absolves you
-then you do penance to make up for your sin
-if you don't have all your sins confessed then you have to spend time in purgatory

5) Annointing of the sick -if you are physically sick you can be annointed with oil and prayed over by a priest -we actually do this too

6) Holy Orders -some people commit their entire life to the service of Jesus and the Church -take vows to abstain from certain things

7) Marriage -union between a man and a women for life

What's the bottom line? Ephesians 2:8-9 -salvation is totally based on you putting your faith in Jesus -no work can save you or add to your salvation

-you can believe some wrong things, you can do some different traditional practices

*you must trust that Jesus death has paid for your sins and that alone is what makes you right with God

-christian parents, church attendance, being a good person, doing religious things don't earn you salvation

Small Group Questions

1) Do you have any catholic background? Tell us about it

2) Which of the sacraments did you find most interesting and why?

3) How would you discuss your faith with someone who is Catholic?

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