

## Interview Questions for Jefferson Bethke Author of *It's Not What You Think*

---

“One of the scariest questions we have to ask ourselves is: what if we aren’t seeing Jesus properly?  
What implication does that have for our lives? What if Jesus isn’t who we think?”

—Jefferson Bethke

---

- Jefferson, many of us remember your spoken word video, “Why I Hate Religion But Love Jesus,” which went viral on YouTube a couple years ago. What’s happened in your life since then?
  - Let’s talk about the subtitle of your new book: *Why Christianity Is About so Much More than Going to Heaven When You Die*
  - Tell us how study of the first-century world of Jesus has changed your reading of the Gospels. Has it added more color to your imagination of Jesus’ life?
  - You open your new book by saying “Christianity is a bounced check to your generation.” What do you mean by that? How can we make better promises to the next generation?
  - It seems many Christians focus on sin management, but you write that our focus should be on how God is restoring all things. How would that look in everyday life?
  - You also spend a chapter of this new book discussing Sabbath and rest. How do we practice (or not practice) rest differently than God intended?
  - I love the story you tell about a friend from elementary school, Big Mike. How does Big Mike remind you of your true identity in Christ?
  - You have some heavy things to say about loving our enemies and what it means to live as Kingdom people. How do Christians live that out here in America – or in Syria?
  - All of us are wounded at times, as humans and followers of Christ. Why do you say we should celebrate our scars?
  - You ask this question in your book: “Would we rather have Jesus give us all the answers, or would we rather sit at the table with him?” Tell us how you came to ask that question.
  - Seems like you and your wife Alyssa are asked lots of questions about dating and marriage. What’s the best piece of advice you have for dating?
  - Jefferson, we know you love to connect online with readers of your books. How can they reach out to you after reading *It's Not What You Think*?
- 

**Guest:** Jefferson Bethke – YouTube video maker, blogger and author

**Book title:** *It's Not What You Think: Why Christianity is About So Much More Than Going to Heaven When You Die*

**Publisher:** Thomas Nelson (Nelson Books)

**Available:** October 13, 2015, in bookstores everywhere

**Online:** [www.JeffersonBethke.com](http://www.JeffersonBethke.com) or on twitter @jeffersonbethke