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# UNIT 4: PANTHEISM

## LESSON 2: NEW AGE BELIEFS



READ JOHN 1:1-18

- Write one paragraph on what you learn about Jesus from these verses.

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# What does New Spirituality teach?

## I. Everything is consciousness

- consciousness is usually defined in vague terms
- often defined as personal attributes such as peaceful, self-sufficient, blissful, knowing, whole
- consciousness is an impersonal force

*\*God is not an impersonal force; Exodus 3:14, Acts 17:24-25*

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# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 2. Every person is God

- all is consciousness and all humans and things are part of this consciousness
- this “god” is actually a force
- “I am god, you are god, every person is god”

*\*This idea of “god” is vastly different from the Creator God who made us and desires a personal relationship with us!*

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# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 3. Consciousness can be harnessed to achieve perfection

- everything is energy; thoughts are energy
- good thoughts produce good energy, bad thoughts produce bad energy
- NS believes Jesus was human who achieved perfection and godhead

*John 14:23 reminds us that Jesus is God; he was not a human who simply achieved perfection*

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# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 4. The purpose of life is overcoming self

- we must be lost in the universal self in order to have meaning
- We free ourselves from self (selfishness and ego) through reincarnation
  - reincarnation is the process by which the body passes away but the soul continues its quest for enlightenment

*How is the idea of reincarnation different from Christianity?*