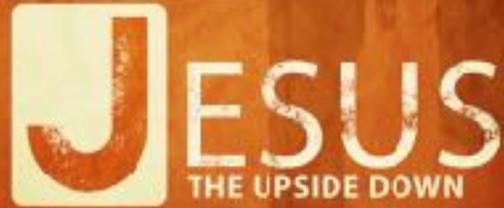


Life Group Discussion Guide

WHEN CHRISTIANS GET IT WRONG
Matthew 5:17-20
Stuart Jones - February 10, 2019



INTRODUCTION

As Jesus instructs us about the fulfillment of the Law (Matthew 5: 17-20), at no time does he call us to make additions, create requirements, or make us gatekeepers for grace and mercy. Yet sometimes we stumble and create our own set of laws, rules and hoops to jump through. We sometimes want to say, "Do these additional things and you will be closer to our Savior and a worthier Christian."

Jesus gives a simple, though difficult role, and does so with clear guidance, "...whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:19)

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. How does Jesus take the laws the Jews were required to follow to another level in the Sermon on the Mount? Why do you think He did that?
2. What are some areas of life where a balance between two extremes is the correct path to take (Example: Bulldozer parent vs. uninvolved parent)?

EVALUATE IT

1. Stuart said, "The longest conversation that's recorded in the whole Bible is between Jesus and a pagan, Samaritan, five-times-married-and-now-shacking-up-with-a-guy-who-is-not-even-her-husband woman. Nothing Jesus did was by accident, so what does that tell you about Him?"
2. Answer these questions Stuart asked, " Why does He seem so narrow in his devotion to God and so broad in his relationships with humanity? Was he inconsistent? Was He just a really nice guy but not really a good thinker?"
3. Bob Russell wrote, "Truth without love is dogmatism. Love without truth is sentimentality." How then do we marry these seemingly opposites of love and truth?"
4. Stuart said, "Freedom is not the absence of restraint and restriction. Freedom is finding the right restriction." What is he saying? How do we find the right restriction?"

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Which way do you tend to lean, toward love or toward truth? Why?
2. What did you find to be the most challenging in this sermon? Why?



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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