

FUSION Q's... Christ In You 7: The Pressure to Turn Away 2 – Empty Religion

Discussion Questions

- Q1. What stood out to you from the talk tonight?
- Q2. What does the term "legalism" mean?
- Q3. There are a lot of rules that Christian people make that are not in the Bible. As a group, come up with 10 rules that people make that are not in the Bible.
- Q4. Why are human rules that seem wise (religion) so dangerous to our faith? What's so bad about them?

Read Galatians 3:1-5 & 3:10-14

- Q5. According to Paul, how do we receive the Spirit?
- Q6. Why is it easy for Christians to drift towards human effort rather than relying on the gospel to make them right with God?
- Q7. What's the difference between faith-driven things and religion-driven things?
- Q8. One of the outcomes of relying on your human effort to please God is pride. This pride is most often seen in how we look down on others for not being as good as us. Has this ever happened to you? How did it make you feel?
- Q9. What types of things can we do to keep from drifting towards religious pride?

Bible Passages

Galatians 3:1-5

Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. ² Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. ³ How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort? ⁴ Have you experienced so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it?

⁵ I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ.

Galatians 3:10-14

¹⁰ But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law." ¹¹ So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." ¹² This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life."

¹³ But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴ Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised Holy Spirit through faith.