

DEEPER

Life Group Questions: Avoiding Legalism

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Read

Colossians 2:4, 6-7, 8

Reflect

Legalism is a natural tendency that we all share. It comes from a desire to prove our own goodness. When we establish legalistic rules, we tell ourselves that we are following an objective standard that everyone should adhere to. The truth is that legalism is always a rigged deck, designed to reassure us at the expense of those around us. What legalistic tendencies have you noticed in your own life?

Pastor Greg gave us a few ways that we can keep legalism from stealing our joy:

1. Remember where you stand in Jesus
 - a. When you look at yourself, do you see a person who has been made whole and complete in Christ? Why is it hard for us to see ourselves this way?
 - b. How would we live differently if we constantly reminded ourselves of where we stand in Jesus?
2. Avoid surface judgments
 - a. Read Colossians 2:16-17. This is an important reminder that we need to be very careful about judging others based on what we can observe about them. Have you ever judged someone and later realized that you had misunderstood the situation? Have you ever been judged in that way?
 - b. What are some ways that we tend to surface-judge people? Why is it so easy to do this?
3. Reject false authority
 - a. Have you ever been pressured into behaving a certain way because of a legalistic person in a position of authority?
 - b. How can we respond to those sorts of demands? How can we keep from making them ourselves?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?

