

21st CENTURY CHURCH

WEEK 3: Recycled Religion

PURPOSE OF THE GROUP: To give everyone in the group the opportunity to find authentic community and spiritual growth. A group is where you are known, and you grow.

YOUR PERSONAL ROLE: Watch or listen to the message. Show up at group. Be real. (Life is better connected)

INTRODUCTION:

The rules of religion have shaped us. What we grew up in. What we have been taught. What we naturally think. All of which try to create a brand of church that is rule focused with a slice of what Jesus designed. This always causes our beliefs to get in the way of our love.

📺 **WATCH THE MESSAGE VIDEO ON THE ROCKPOINTE APP OR WEBSITE OR WALK THROUGH THE POINTS OF THE MESSAGE IN THE NOTES SECTION.**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

1. When you hear the word "religion," what comes to mind? Why?
2. What are some of the consequences of people viewing Christians as judgmental and obsessed with rules instead of as a loving community?
3. **Read Galatians 5:6, 14.** What is challenging about the idea that all the law is fulfilled in the command to "love your neighbor as yourself"? What is freeing about that idea?
4. During the message we discussed how *our conscience determines religious realities whether they are real or not*. When has a shift in your conscience changed your religious reality? How did that affect your relationship with God?
5. Who is one person you need to start being *for* without demanding anything in return? What stands in the way of you loving that person?
6. What is one thing you can do this week to better love the person you identified in the previous question? What can this group do to support you?

Do your beliefs ever get in the way of your love? Do your views stop you from loving someone? Most of us wrestle with that because we haven't embraced the truth of gospel: if Jesus died for us, he is for us. God's undeserved love for us and for those around us must guide our conscience and our behavior.

KEY VERSE OF THE WEEK: **Galatians 5:6**

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

HOW CAN THIS GROUP PRAY FOR YOU THIS WEEK?

ASK SOMEONE TO PRAY TO END THE GROUP TIME.