

How Can I Trust the Church?

Can I Ask That in Church? - Part 1

March 30, 2025

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Why is it hard to trust the Church when ...

- Christians are a bunch **hypocrites?**
- When there is so much **church hurt?**
- When the Church has a **history of division and hate?**

If you've been frustrated, turned off, or disgusted by Christians who consistently say one thing and do another, Jesus is with you.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which appear beautiful on the outside, but inside are full of the bones of the dead and every kind of impurity. In the same way, on the outside you seem righteous to people, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness." Matthew 23:27-28 (CSB)

Why do so many Christians get it wrong?

1. Sin Problems
2. Structure Problems
3. Systemic Problems

"If you say that the history of the Church is a long succession of scandals, you are telling the truth, though if that is all you say, you are distorting the truth." - Gerald Vann

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1. Hypocrites Happen, But Jesus is the Real Deal

Philippians 2:5-8

"If a person claims to be without sin and then demonstrates sin, surely that person is a hypocrite. But for a Christian simply to demonstrate that he is a sinner does not convict him of hypocrisy." - R.C. Sproul

Don't judge Jesus by those who don't live like Him.

2. The Church Stands on Christ, Not on Flawed People

*“¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ **Jesus himself being the cornerstone** ... ”* Ephesians 2:19-20 (ESV)

“For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 3:11 (ESV)

Church flaws don't cancel Christ's faithfulness.

3. The Church is a Work in Progress, Not a Finished Product

“²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely. And may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; He will do it.” 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 (CSB)

God is still refining His Church.

4. Church Hurt is Real, But So is Healing

“⁹Let love be without hypocrisy. Detest evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters. Take the lead in honoring one another.” Romans 12:9-10 (CSB)

“He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.” Psalm 147:3 (CSB)

People may hurt you, but Jesus wants to heal you.

5. Call It Out, But Don't Count God Out

Galatians 6:1-2

If something's broken, don't just walk away—fight for what the Church is supposed to be.

6. Trust God, Even When People Let You Down

“It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humanity.” Psalm 118:8 (CSB)

Build your faith on Jesus instead of on fallen people.

We don't promise perfection—we point you to the Perfect One who never breaks His promises.

Here at The Bayou Church we want to invite every single person to **know God, find community, and make a difference.**

- **We all walk with a limp**
- **Rescued people reach people.**