

Religion vs The Gospel

Relationship – Part 2

September 17, 2023

Discussion Questions:

1. How would it make you feel if people in your life show up at a difficult moment? Would you easily receive them, or would you tend to say that you don't need help?
2. Read Romans 5:6-11. What emotions come up when you consider that Jesus Christ showed up to clean up your mess? If you are comfortable, share when you experienced Jesus showing up in the middle of your mess.
3. Read Galatians 3:10-12 and Romans 1:17. Is it difficult for you to believe that it is by faith that we have been saved and not by our own actions? Why or why not? What are some ways you can keep this truth in focus?
4. Pastor Sean contrasted religion versus a relationship with God. Take a look at the below table. Are you on the path of a religion of works, relationship through faith, or neither? If you have a relationship with God, which of the areas in the Religion column are most difficult for you to put aside?

<u>Religion</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
About what I do (works)	About what Jesus has done (faith in Him)
"If I obey, God will love me"	"Because God loves me, I get to obey"
Motivated by fear or insecurity	Motivated by humble gratitude
Ends in pride or despair	Ends in humble joy
Good people and bad people	Repentant and unrepentant people
Values a birth family	Values a new birth
Goal is to get from God	Goal is to get God
God is punishing me	God is working to grow my faith
Appearing as a good person is key	Being honest is key
Uncertainty standing before God	Certainty based upon Jesus' work