

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

What is True Spirituality?

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Excerpts from John Ortberg



MEMORY VERSE

Colossians 3:17 says, “*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*”

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – “WHEN GOD SEEM SILENT”

Getting Started

Read Colossians 3:17 above. Think about what it would mean for you to live the ordinary moments of your life as if Jesus were in your place. How would you do each of the following activities in Jesus’ name?

- waking up
- greeting those you see first in the morning
- eating
- driving
- watching tv/movies
- going to sleep
- working at your job

What do you think would be different if Jesus was with you throughout doing all these various activities?

Digging Deeper

- 1.) Describe the picture Jesus paints in John 10:10 of what should happen in the life of all who follow him.
 - a. What has prevented you or other Christians you know from having quality of life?
- 2.) Read Matthew 23:1-28. In this passage, Jesus has some harsh words for the religious leaders of his day.
 - a. What specific behaviors does Jesus confront?
 - i. Verse 3
 - ii. Verse 4
 - iii. Verse 5
 - iv. Verses 6-7
 - v. Verse 13
 - vi. Verse 15
 - vii. Verses 23-24
 - viii. Verses 25-28

- 3.) What heart attitude(s) do you think all these behaviors have in common?
- 4.) As you read through this passage, was there any point at which you might have said, “Ouch – I have a tendency in that direction”? How do you think such distorted views of spirituality have crept into your life?
- 5.) According to the following words of Jesus, what must be at the heart of any concept of spirituality?
 - a. Matthew 23:11-12
 - b. Mark 12:28-34
 - c. John 15:4-17

Bringing it Home

Being as candid as possible, how would you assess the state of your spiritual life right now? What work would you invite God to do? How can the members of your small group help?

Take some time in silence to journal how tonight’s lesson may have impacted you personally and end by praying together as a family.