Series: "I WANT TO BELIEVE, BUT…."
Part 2: "GOD DOESN'T SEEM FUN"
Crossroads Community Church
October 15, 2017

The Bad News about Religion:

1. **Religion focuses on the _____ rather than the _____**

   [25] "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. [26] Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.
   Matthew 23:25-26 (NIV)

   [3] So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. [4] They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.
   Matthew 23:3-4 (NIV)

2. **Religion robs you of _____**

   [19] Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. [20] But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast. Mark 2:19-20 (NIV)

3. **Religion robs you of _____**

   [1] It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.
   Galatians 5:1 (NIV)

   [20] Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. [21] But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. [22] This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.
   Romans 3:20-22 (NIV)

The Good News about Jesus:

1. **You cannot _____ God's acceptance by _____ the law**

   [20] Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; (vs. 20a)

   - ***Good News:*** **You don't _____**

2. **The purpose of the law is to show you your _____ for a _____**

   [20] Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. (vs. 20)

   - ***Good News:*** **God _____**

3. **Being right with God comes through _____ in _____ alone**

   [21] But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. [22] This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. (vs. 21-22)

   - ***Good News:*** **What religion _____, God made _____**

Sermon Notes:

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