

Week 6

Ways we attempt to become spiritual (continued):

✓ Religion:

- Religion is man finding a way to be **JUSTIFIED** with God. Salvation is God justifying those who could _____ justify themselves.
- Catechism, confession, baptism, church attendance, discipleship, mission trips...

Q: *What religious systems have you created?*

Q: *What would your spiritual life be like in solitary confinement after 3 months?*

✓ Knowledge:

- We must _____ equate knowledge in the **head** with spirituality in the **heart**.
- Knowledge does **NOT** determine spirituality, it is what you **do** with that knowledge – 1 Co. 8:1: Eph. 3:14-19

NOTE *One of the biggest battles faced by those who have been Christians for any length of time is simply their “familiarity” with the word of God.*

*They are **FOOLED** by the flesh into thinking that because they “know” a verse or passage and they “understand” the “concept” of it that they automatically think they are responding to it. They think they believe it, but in reality, they may not...*

- Contrary to popular belief, knowledge is _____ power...Knowledge is potential power! Phil 4:9
- To quote a famous preacher...*“the bigger the belfry, the more room for bats!”*

✓ Experiences:

- Listening to “Christian” music –

NOTE It is better than secular music, but it does not make your spiritual! (...though it may encourage you)

- Listening to preaching messages –

- Reading “Christian” books –

NOTE Like preaching tapes, they can be good...however they do not replace the Bible as the _____ in your life!

- Going on mission trips –

- Attending conferences, etc. –

- Ecstatic episodes and experiences, etc. –

NOTE They make you “feel good”...but it does not make you closer to God! They make you “feel religious”...but it is like prostitute spirituality! Most people that are in to the “experience” prefer the “feeling” over the Word of God!

KEY Believing the Word of God is the only truly “spiritual” thing we can do! 2 Pet 1:16