

**FACT
CHECK**

*things
Jesus
never
said*

A NewStory Church Series

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Part 2: Karma or Christ?

Icebreaker: Identify some examples in life (like the picture of the tip jar) where “Fact-Checking” a misunderstanding or misapplication of the Bible might be necessary.

1) What’s the best example you can think of for the “What comes around, goes around” principle? Read and discuss John 9:1-7. How were the disciples guilty of this simpleton way of cause & effect thinking? What does this type of thinking do to your compassion for others?

2) Syncretism is the blending of two or more different religions, cultures, ideologies or schools of thought. Read Exodus 20:3 and its surrounding context. What do you suppose is the importance of this verse and its contribution to (against) the idea of syncretism? How can syncretism be both subtle and destructive? Where do you see it today?

3) Read and discuss 2 Kings 17:30-33,39-41. What is happening here and how might we still be guilty of it today? Can you name some examples of where certain cultural expectations and practices have made their way into Christian faith? Are Christians today guilty of blending culture and Christianity in unhealthy ways?

4) Grace and karma seem to be on two ends of the spectrum. Discuss. What is so amazing about grace? Spend a few moments reading the following passages and share what aspects about grace make the greatest impression upon you: John 1:14-16; Romans 3:20-24; 2 Corinthians 9:8; 12:8-9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 2:11-12

5) Do you agree with the following quote from author and former pastor, Gordan MacDonald. If so, how might we demonstrate more GRACE to those around us? What is one practical GRACE step you can make today towards another?

“The world can do almost anything as well as or better than the church ... You need not be a Christian to build houses, feed the hungry, or heal the sick. There is only one thing the world cannot do. It cannot offer GRACE.”



SAVE THE DATES:

