

Religious or Relational?

7.6.22

Matthew 7: 21 "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. ²² On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.'

²³ But I will reply, 'I never knew you'"

Phil 3:10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

I. Things religion cannot do that a relationship with Jesus can.

A. Religion offers no change

B. Religion creates zero hope for the afterlife

II. 5 Ways to know if you have a healthy relationship with Jesus

A. Communication

-Talk to Him

I Thessalonians 5:17 Never stop praying.

What if you woke up this morning and had only the things you thanked God for yesterday?

Max Lucado

-Listen to him

Colossians 3:16 Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives.

B. Thought

“Religion is a guy in church thinking about fishing.
Relationship is a guy out fishing thinking about God.”

Philippians 1:21 For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better.

C. Acknowledgement

Philippians 1:1 *Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,*

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile

Philippians 1:1 *Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,*

Luke 9:26 If anyone is ashamed of me and my message, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in his glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels.

D. Respect

John 14:15 “If you love me, obey my commandments.

The most miserable man or woman is the one who knows what is right and does not do it.

Greg Laurie

E. Influence

John 13:14 And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet.

36: So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

Close:

“One of the deadliest deceptions is the deception of religion. The deception of religion is thinking that when we go through certain religious rites, rituals, membership processes, or attend certain services or ceremonies, we are being spiritual.” James Emory White

