



Groups Guide

Text: Mark 2:23-3:6

Title: The Trap of Tradition

Series: The Gospel According to Mark

Preacher: AJ Roberts

Main Idea

Following tradition leads to death, while faith in Jesus leads to life.

Loop Questions

1. ICE BREAKER: What comes to mind when you hear the word "tradition"?
2. We often embrace our faith traditions because that is all we have ever known. What can be so dangerous about the words, "Well, we have always done it this way"?
3. The oral law, which was intended to help the Jews better understand the Scriptures, grew to be as authoritative as the Scriptures themselves. Why is this so harmful? Can you think of any modern examples of this?
4. As a follow up to question #3, the oral law is a collection of opinions and thoughts of Torah scholars that had great influence on the Jewish people. We, too, have many "experts" we follow, whose opinions we trust. What can we do to ensure we do not follow these experts more than we do the Bible?
5. Legalism is the strict adherence to a set of rules in order to obtain right standing with God. This is not what the Bible teaches, yet Christians often continue to embrace this mindset. How does this undermine what Jesus accomplished for us in His life, death and resurrection?
6. As the man with the shriveled hand approached, the Pharisees cared more about upholding tradition than they did seeing and meeting the need in front of them. Why is it important that Christians not grow calloused, but instead be more sensitive to the hurting around us?
7. We find ourselves in a season of great pain and lament, for a variety of reasons. Take time as a group to pray for those suffering and ask the Lord for a bold sensitivity in order to meet people where they are with the gospel.

Understanding

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