

Losing religion, finding relationship.

Enjoying the Journey of Relationship with Jesus

The whole point of losing religion is to find a deeper relationship with Jesus. Instead of living by a checklist, we learn how to be led by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:14 Those who are led by the Spirit are children of God

- What is the difference between living by rules and living by the Spirit?
- What is your biggest struggle to live by the Spirit, and what is one way you would like to grow in this area?
- Read Galatians 5:16-25 and Romans 8:2-9 and record any further insight you gain about life by the Spirit and life by rules (law).

Relationship with Jesus is a journey. We develop and cultivate our relationship with Him as we do life with Him, in the life we currently have.

- What things in your life do you believe need to be “fixed” before you can have a better relationship with God?
- What have been your expectations for a relationship with God?
- What has been your experience of a relationship with God?
- What are your struggles in your relationship with God?

- Share one struggle with a trusted friend and ask them to pray for you.

Our human hearts long for “the good life”, a life of prosperity, comfort and ease. But no one lives “the good life”. Instead, if we have the courage to face our pain, hardship and disappointments, we can choose a redemptive life. God will transform every ounce of pain and heartache into purpose if we allow Him. The redemptive life happens as we walk our own individual path with Jesus.

Psalm 84:5-7 Blessed are those whose strength is in You, who have set their hearts on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baca (tears), they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools. They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.

A pilgrim is a wanderer; someone who has only a temporary residence and travels a long way to visit a holy, sacred place.

- How do these verses describe the “blessed” person?
- Describe their journey.
- What choices do they make in the adversity they experience along the way?
- What is their destination?
- If your heart is set on pilgrimage, and your destination is His presence, how will your experience of the journey be transformed?

“One path leads home and a thousand to the wilderness”. C. S. Lewis

- What do you think C. S. Lewis means by that statement, and what has been your experience with the wilderness?

- What do the following verses teach you about the path?

Psalm 43:3-5

Psalm 16:11

Proverbs 3:5-6

Jesus wants us to enjoy the journey of our relationship with Him. When our desire is His presence, and we continually walk our path with Him, our relationship with Him will deepen along the way.

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