

3. The Religious Leaders loved the _____ that comes from men, more than the _____ that comes from God.

JOHN

LIFE IN JESUS

Jesus and the Religious Leaders

Various Texts

Sunday, May 19, 2024

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In John's Gospel, Jesus' harshest words are directed to the religious insiders and religious leaders. This is striking and a warning to our own hearts!

1. The Religious Leaders believed that eternal life was _____ through knowledge of and obedience to the Scriptures, which led them to _____ and _____ - _____.

2. The Religious Leaders saw themselves as the " _____, " instead of _____ for people and leading them to _____ in the Messiah.

TAKING ACTION

Humble yourself before Jesus as you come to His table today. See again your need for Him. Confess your pride and self-righteousness. Receive His forgiveness and grace once more. Thank Him for His finished work and the eternal life He gives.

NEXT WEEK: *Jesus and the Disciple Jesus Loved | John 21:20-25*

Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the perfect time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org/groups

CONNECT *(ask this question to check-in with your group)*

Share your summer plans with one another.

DISCUSS *(use some of these questions to process God's Word together)*

1. How did you "come under" God's Word and the message this week? How did this text/message speak to you?
2. Have you ever considered before the fact that Jesus' harshest words were directed to religious insiders and religious leaders? What's your reaction to that?
3. Why are self-righteousness and pride greater threats the longer we are Christians?

4. How can we practically guard our hearts against self-righteousness and pride?
5. In John 5:9-13, how do the religious leaders become the "Morality Police"?
6. Why does becoming the "Morality Police" drive people away from Jesus instead of drawing them toward Him? When sharing the Gospel, how can we talk about sin without becoming the "Morality Police"?
7. How does the Lord's Table work to keep us from the errors of the religious leaders? How do we use it as intended without it becoming an empty, meaningless ritual?

PRAY *(use these prompts to pray in response to God's Word)*

- This week, humble yourselves underneath God's mighty hand together. Stay broken and in your need for Jesus and His Gospel. Pray your need and thanks back to Him.
- Share and pray for one another's needs.