

Growth Group Homework

March 9th, 2014

Sermon Series: The Walk of Faith

Sermon Title: Walking on the Straight and Narrow

Sermon Text: James 1:19-27

Preacher: Rod Bender

Take a few minutes to review the sermon outline from Sunday. Then answer the following questions, looking up Scripture verses where noted. Feel free to refer to other verses you may know that address the issue being considered.

Prayer (*attempt to invest at least 10 min in prayer*)

Getting to Know You

How religious was your family growing up? Share some of the ways their influence has impacted your life.

Digging Deeper

1. Read Matthew 7:13-27 and answer the following questions:

- a. Considering Matthew 7:13-14, what was Jesus really telling His disciples about following Him?
- b. Jesus warned His listeners about those who are unrighteous, but who appear to be righteous. Based on verses 16-18, what did He say would identify His true followers from those who are false followers?

c. Based on verse 21, what did Jesus say is the fruit of a true Christ-follower?

d. According to vv.24-27, explain the difference between the two men in the story.

Making it Personal

4. What kinds of religious ideas do we carry around that make us think that following Christ should be easy? How can our religious activity keep us from becoming true Christ followers?
5. Can a person pretend to be a Christ-follower and fool everyone around them? How?
6. Do you think it's possible that we, in the church, have traded in internal transformation for traditions, external regulations, and standards? Explain. What effect can this trade-in have on our salvation? Our family? Our friends? Our mission?