

# the Venues

## Go Deep

### Motown Message

#### Superstition

October 12, 2014

*Be honest, do you have any superstitions?*

*Do you know the history behind any superstitions?*

*Why do you think people gravitate toward superstitions?*

#### **Superstition is about:**

**Fear.**

**Definition: Superstition is an excessive fear of the gods.**

In ancient days people would do things like sacrifice their kids to appease the gods. *What do we do to appease God? To keep him from getting mad at us?*

Read Malachi 3:9-10

*In light of the above definition of superstition, is it possible that some Christians use tithing like a rabbit's foot?*

Compare Malachi 3:9-10 with 2 Corinthians 9:7. Tithing was part of the Law of Moses. *How does tithing by law contrast with giving by grace?*

Here is what is called “the sinner’s prayer.”

“Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. In Your Name. Amen.”

Here is what David Platt, the newly elected President of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention said about the prayer:

“Should it not concern us that there is no such superstitious prayer in the New Testament?”

*What do you think about Platt’s comment? True? False? Why?*

**Spirituality is about:**

**Control**

*How do superstitions give us a sense of control?*

**Spirituality is about:**

**Trust**

Read Psalm 56:3

*How does the above verse contrast with the use of superstitions?*

*What do we mean when we say, “God is in control?”*

Some theologians believe and teach that in order to honor the teaching of God’s Sovereignty we have to believe that everything that happens is ordained by God.

*What do you think about that view of God’s control? What does that view – sometimes called the Blueprint view – say about the presence and practice of evil?*

*How does the Blueprint view of God’s control fit with free will?*

Read Romans 8:28 and Matthew 6:10.

*What do Romans 8:28 and Matthew 6:10 help us understand God’s will (control)?*

*How are you doing in trusting God?  
Are you confident of God’s love for you? 1 John 4:18*