

the Venues

Go Deep

“Maybe it Doesn’t Mean What I Think It Means” Do Christians Need to Be Introduced to Jesus?

9.16.18

My favorite board game of all time is _____.

My favorite song to sing in the shower is _____.

A Christian is _____.

The number of people identifying as Christian has dropped from 83% to in 2003 to 72% in 2017.

Why do you think the number is declining?

The fastest growing segment is the “None” or “Done” group - “I’m done with religion.”

Do you know anyone in the “None” or “Done” group?

Compare the philosophy of Tertullian (160AD - 220AD) with the philosophy of Constantine (272AD - 337AD).

“The Christian does not hurt even his enemy.” Tertullian

“By this sign you will conquer.” Constantine (Emperor of Rome, seeing a vision of the cross with these words justifying his use of the sword to conquer).

Which philosophy fits Jesus? Which philosophy have we followed?

Read Matthew 5:1-12. *How does that Christianity match the Christianity we see today?* Read, and let soak in to your soul, these two quotes:

“I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ.” Attributed to Ghandi, but probably from philosopher, Bara Dada.

“I love the pure, peaceable, and impartial Christianity of Christ. I therefore hate the corrupt, slaveholding, women-whipping, cradele-plundering, partial and hypocritical Christianity of this land. Indeed, I can see no reason, but the most deceitful one, for calling the religion of this land Christianity.” Frederick Douglass, after escaping slavery, he became a national leader in the abolitionist movement.

What are Christians doing today that is unlike Jesus?

How should a Christian live? The “Good Samaritan” story gives a good answer: Luke 10:25-37.

What is the question asked by the expert in Moses’ law?

Have you heard that question before? What answers have you been given?

How does Jesus answer the question?

What is the significance of a Samaritan being the hero of the story and the one who experiences/finds eternal life?

Who would be a modern-day Samaritan?

Read Luke 10:37

What is the characteristic of a person who has eternal life? What is Jesus direction to us?