

LOVE

Theme: Love 24

Discipleship groups purpose: Each member being transformed into the image of the Son.

Key Truth: Rules Without Relationship.

Read: Last week we looked at how love releases us from religion and that religion immunises us towards a Relationship with Christ. This week I want us to look at how rules without a relationship or love, leads to rebellion.

When we have little or no relationship with Christ, His Truth and the Life He calls us to live out through obedience can be seen as something we have to do or must do, rather than something we delight to live out and receive incredible blessing from. We tend to see God's Truth as something that we think is there to restrict us rather than something that frees us from ourselves and brings us into incredible life.

We see this very rebellion in the natural as well. Children don't obey their parents as they see their parents guidelines or rules as restrictive rather than protective. We see this in society as well. People say the rules are there to be broken as they only restrict you doing what you want to do, and yet more than not, when a rule is broken the consequences can be disastrous. We say "if only I had of.....", but it's now too late, the damage, which in some cases is irreparable, is done.

Eve's rebellion against God's conclusion led to the fall of mankind. When we don't know love we don't see the rule as protective and for our benefit. This is why it is essential we know love, because Rules with Relationship leads to Righteousness. We will look at this next week.

Questions:

1. What is it about our old nature that hates rules?
2. It is fully possible to keep all the rules externally but still be rebellious to God on the inside. Why is this the case?
3. Do you find yourself in your heart rebelling against God's truth more than you find yourself coming under God's Truth and why?
4. Why do some see rules and clear boundaries as protective, while some see them as restrictive?
5. How essential is it that our old human nature be put to death through the cross?

Action: What is one thing you need to put in place from going through this resource?