

LifeGroup Study

Jesus Curious : Jesus Never Said That

SERMON SUMMARY

Jesus is not a "decorator", come to add a few nice things to our lives. Jesus is a "disruptor." He doesn't want to fit into our cultural molds, he wants to break them. " Jesus was not a cosmic "yes-man" who never offended anybody. He was radical, exclusive, and transformative. Will we follow the Jesus we've created in our own image, or the Jesus who calls us to carry a cross?

KEY VERSE

Matthew 16:24-25 - "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will find it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49601243>

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. What ideas from the sermon caught your attention?
2. Read Matthew 7:1-5. We often hear "Judge not" used to mean we should never offer moral correction or have an opinion on someone's choices. How does Jesus' actual instruction in this passage change that?
3. Our culture often defines "love" as unconditional affirmation of someone's feelings. Looking at Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well (John 4), how did He demonstrate a love that was both incredibly welcoming and intentionally transformative?
4. At funerals or in casual conversation, it's common to hear that "all paths lead to God." How do we reconcile the "inclusive" invitation of the Gospel with Jesus' "exclusive" claim in John 14:6 that He is the *only* way to the Father?
5. Many people believe God's primary goal is our comfort and success. If Jesus promised that "in this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33), how should that redefine our expectations when we face financial or physical hardship?
6. If your life were a house, would you say you've treated Jesus more like a *decorator* (someone to make things look better) or a *disruptor* (someone knocking down walls)? What is one "wall" He is currently trying to tear down?
7. Jesus offers us a "yoke" that is easy and a burden that is light (Matthew 11:29-30). Why is submitting to Jesus' "yoke" (His teaching and authority) actually more freeing than the "freedom" the culture offers?
8. Discipleship is often described as being "transformed into His likeness." In what area of your life does the cultural mold still have too much influence on how you think or act?

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask the group to spend a moment in silence identifying one "cultural idol" (comfort, reputation, individual autonomy etc.) they've allowed to take priority over Jesus. Pray specifically for the courage to let Jesus "disrupt" that area of their lives this week.