

# EVANGELISM

## Simple Evangelism...



WEST SOUND COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUMMER 2020

### ...That Cuts Through the Palaver

Some things are so pathetic one wants to laugh, but doesn't dare. Legalism is one of those things. In so many cases, someone's legalism is actually laughable, but it's not a laughing matter. Instead, it should produce mourning. Legalism, you know...that inclination to demand compliance to one's own way or else one leaves the other stranded on the highway. Legalism demands that everyone adhere to applications of biblical truth that go well beyond what the Bible actually says. Here's an example: the Bible teaches us to "take thought of how to spur one another on to love and good works, not abandoning our own meetings, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and even more so because you see the day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:24 and 25). The legalist demands, "Where were you last Sunday? You know better than to miss church! What is wrong with Christians these days?!" It comes in every form you can imagine. It's a grace robbing vampire...sucking the very life out of our hearts. Thank the Lord he wants no part of it!

In two stirring pieces of the Savior's time on earth, he made his regret and sadness about legalism very well known. There were many other occasions, but we'll look at two presented back to back by Dr. Luke in his Gospel. So, let's get on with it...Luke 6:1-11

1. The First Incident, "plucking grain from the grain-field on the Sabbath." 6:1-5
  - A. The plucking...oh my! vs. 1
  - B. The shaming...oy vey! vs. 2
  - C. The correcting...oh yeah! vss. 3-5
  
2. The Second Incident, "healing a man with a crippled hand on the Sabbath." 6:6-11
  - A. The plotting...oh not again. vss. 6,7
  - B. The correcting...oh yes, again! vss. 8-10
  - C. The plotting, yet again...oh good grief! vs. 11



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## How can we apply all this?

2. Understand the nature of God's truth.

It's alive. It's dynamic. It's relational. It's real and raw. God often speaks as we speak.

Example: Deuteronomy 7:1-6

*When the LORD your God brings you to the land that you are going to occupy and forces out many nations before you—Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and powerful than you—and he delivers them over to you and you attack them, you must utterly annihilate them. Make no treaty with them and show them no mercy!*

*You must not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, for they will turn your sons away from me to worship other gods. Then the anger of the LORD will erupt against you and he will quickly destroy you. Instead, this is what you must do to them: You must tear down their altars, shatter their sacred pillars, cut down their sacred Asherah poles, and burn up their idols. For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. He has chosen you to be his people, prized above all others on the face of the earth.*

2. Be crystal clear about the division between God's word and extracurricular words that make up all the legalisms.
3. Don't tell Kitsap Ken and Kitsap Katie how to live. Introduce them to the One who can give them new life!

