

FOUR CHOICES FOR GROWTH IN 2021 (part 3)

January 24, 2021

Hebrews 11:6

"Without faith it is impossible to please God..."

Galatians 2:15-18

We Jews know that we have no advantage over "non-Jewish sinners." We know very well that we are not set right with God by rule-keeping but only through personal faith in Jesus Christ. How do we know? We tried it—and we had the best system of rules the world has ever seen! Convinced that no human being can please God by self-improvement, we believed in Jesus as the Messiah so that we might be set right before God by trusting in the Messiah, not by trying to be good.

Have some of you noticed that we are not yet perfect? (No great surprise, right?) And are you ready to make the accusation that since people like me, who go through Christ in order to get things right with God, aren't perfectly virtuous, Christ must therefore be an accessory to sin? The accusation is frivolous. If I was "trying to be good," I would be rebuilding the same old barn that I tore down. (MSG)

Key Thoughts:

1. Choice #3: Choosing to _____ rather than _____.
2. There are two distinct paths to living the Christian life:
Path 1: _____
Path 2: _____
3. Many of us believe God _____, but we also believe he is _____.
4. Living _____ acceptance and love is _____. Living _____ acceptance and love is _____.
5. Many people believe that God would love them _____.
The reality is that God loves us so that _____!
6. We will not fully know _____ until we give up on _____.