



The Week of February 5, 2023 Morality? Can't God Just Get Over It? Conversation Guide

Take-Aways

- **What we should believe:**
 - **About Humanity:** (John 3:16) I believe all people are fallen in sin, but loved by God who has taken the initiative to save humanity from its sinfulness.
- **What we should become:**
 - **Goodness:** (Galatians 6:9-10) I will seek to do good to others even at great cost to myself.
- **How we should behave:**
 - **I place God's priorities above my own: (Matthew 6:33)** I will place God's priorities as described in the Bible ahead of my own.

Intro Questions

- What are some of the most important moral teachings you hold to?
- Why are morals important? What do they do for us? For society?
- What are some of the hardest moral teaching you hold to?

Why Morality?

Mark 7:20–23

And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of people’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immoralities, thefts, murders, adulteries, greed, evil actions, deceit, self-indulgence, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a person.”

- What is the source of the evil that people do? Is it God’s commands? Or something else?
- How do we fix the source of evil?
 - Where do we find guidance to fix it?
 - Where do we find the power to fix it?
- We can’t be the master of our own lives and still followers of Jesus.

Galatians 5:19–6:10

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I am warning you about these things – as I warned you before – that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Brothers and sisters, if someone is overtaken in any wrongdoing, you who are spiritual, restore such a person with a gentle spirit, watching out for yourselves so that you also won’t be tempted. Carry one another’s burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone considers himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Let each person examine his own work, and then he can take pride in himself alone, and not compare himself with someone else. For each person will have to carry his own load.

Let the one who is taught the word share all his good things with the teacher. Don’t be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don’t give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.

- What is the “fruit” of walking in the flesh?
- What is the fruit of walking in the Spirit?
- How do we walk in the Spirit?
 - What daily practices can help us walk in the Spirit?

- Our flesh will fight tooth and nail to stay in charge. What justifications have you heard people make for living in the flesh?
 - What justifications have you made to continue living in the flesh?
 - How does the Bible address those justifications?

Next Steps

- Commit to feast on the Word! One of the best ways to strengthen and grow your faith is by faithfully reading the Bible!
 - Create your own plan for daily Bible reading and implement it.
 - Join the Celebration family and read through the book of Luke during the Processing Doubt series (<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/87>)
 - Search the YouVersion Bible App for a “Through the Bible” reading plan and commit now to read through the entire Bible.