

January 7th	Intro Overview	Bible Study
January 14th	Revelation	Galatians 1:11-24
January 21st	Justification	Galatians 2:1-2:21
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## **Galatians 1:1-10**

**This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ Himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. All the brothers and sisters here join me in sending this letter to the churches of Galatia. May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. Jesus gave His life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.**



## Galatians 1:1-10

I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to Himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ. Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you.



## Galatians 1:1-10

I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed. Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.



## Interpretive Key for Galatians

- Literary Type: theologically dense letter
- Author: Paul, formerly Saul or Tarsus
- Recipient: a network of churches planted by Paul in Galatia
- Problem: some very influential false-teachers from within Christianity have undermined Paul's gospel to the gentiles by adding Torah-allegiance on top of faith in Jesus (Jesus + Torah)
- Tone: fiery and frustrated
- Stakes: a potential split into two denominations
- Outline:
  - a. defends the (Jesus + nothing) gospel He preached, (ch.1-2)
  - b. explains how this gospel creates a multi-ethnic (Jew + gentile) family whose core identity is in Christ, (ch.3-4)
  - c. demonstrates how this gospel produces freedom from sin through the Spirit's leadership (not Torah) (ch.5-6).



## GALATIANS 1:9

If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed [ἀνάθεμα ἔστω].



# GALATIANS 5:12

I wish those who unsettle you would castrate themselves!



## **False teaching puts free people back in chains!**

1. Why we turn from the truth
2. How we determine the truth
3. The price of preserving the truth



## GALATIANS 1:6-7

I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to Himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all.



## GALATIANS 1:6-7

You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ.



## **The False-Teachers:**

- a. attacked Paul's credibility
- b. leveraged social scorn and shame
- c. taught a false-gospel



## **Deconstruction**

A coming-of-age script where most young adults doubt the dusty faith they inherited from their parents and slam their childhood church as an expression of independence and enlightenment.



- 20s-30s

- Instagram deconversion announcement

- Self-portrait looking contemplative or photo from behind  
looking at nature

- “I never thought I would say this ...” “It’s terrifying to post this ...”

- Lengthy narrative that uses words like “evolving”, “journey”,  
“authentic”, “free”

- Find the same few beliefs problematic:



# Deconstructing the Same Beliefs

## 1. "I'm too smart to believe in..."

-the reliability of the Bible, miracles, a literal resurrection, the divinity of Jesus ("he's just a really nice teacher"), really anything supernatural

## 2. "I'm too kind to believe in..."

-a literal hell, biblical sex ethics and gender codes, atonement theories, or the exclusivity of Jesus ("he's not the only way to God")



## Five Reasons People Deconstruct

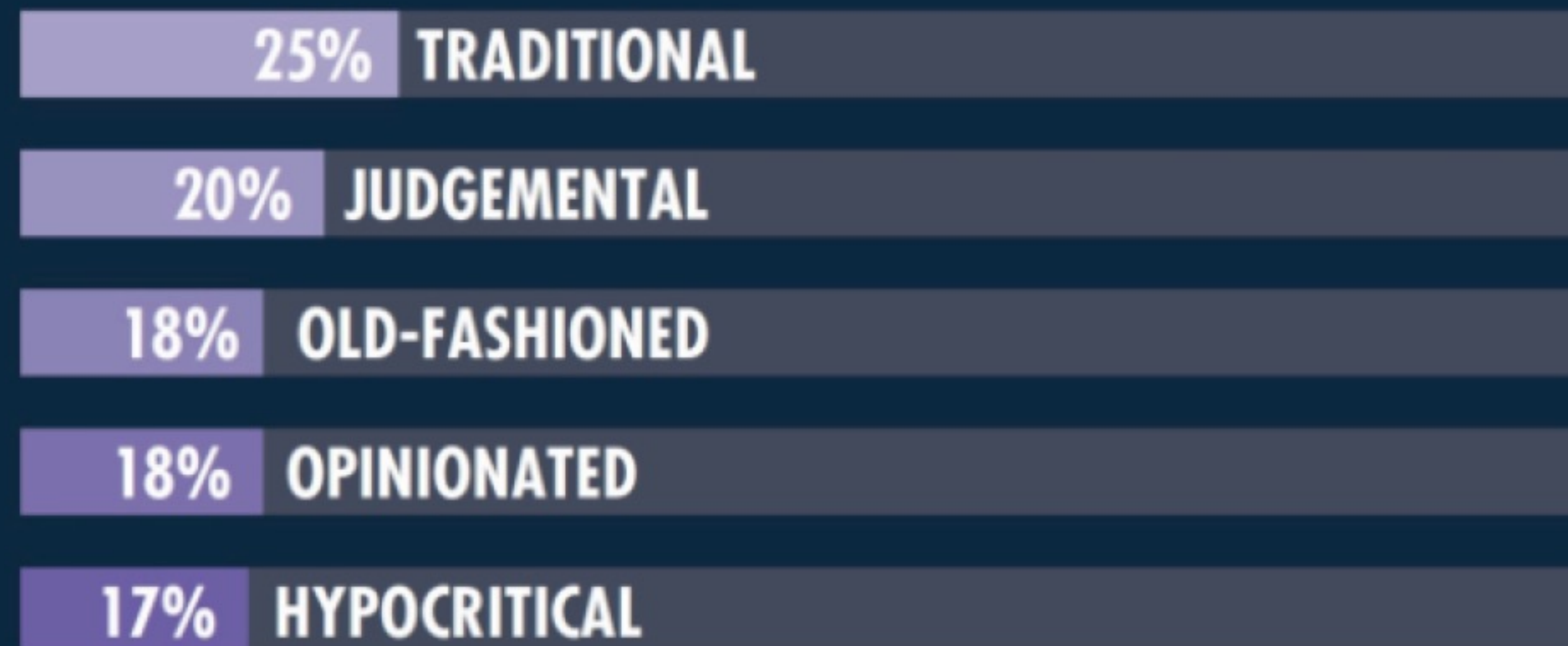
1. Church hurt
2. Harmful teaching from church
3. Desire to sin
4. Spiritual attack
5. Social pressure to fit-in







# TOP 10 PERCEPTIONS OF CHRISTIANS



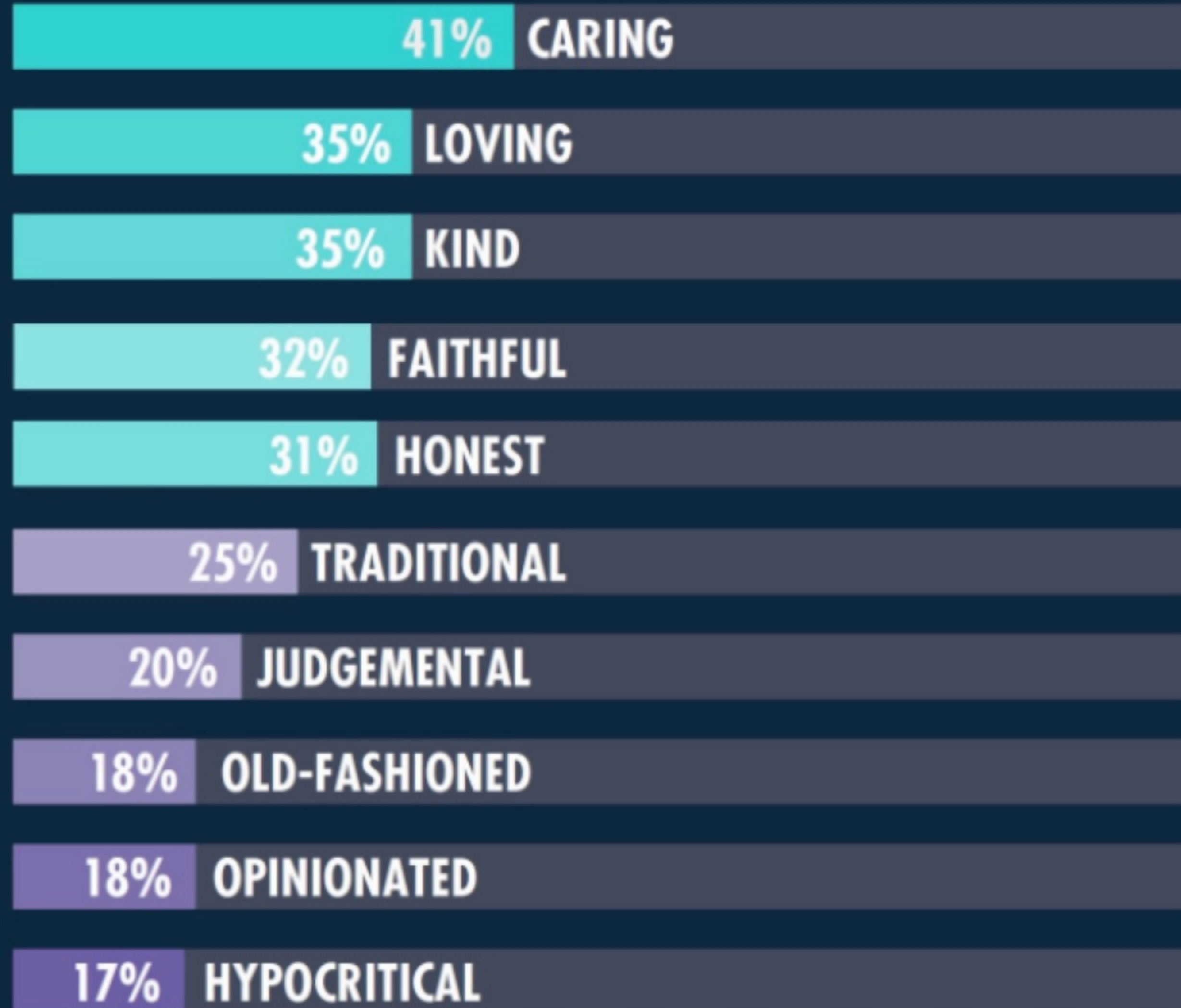
Research & report by:

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# TOP 10 PERCEPTIONS OF CHRISTIANS



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# PEOPLE OFTEN HAVE TWO 'CHRISTIANITIES' IN MIND AT THE SAME TIME





# Five Reasons People Deconstruct

1. Church hurt
2. Harmful teaching from church
3. Desire to sin
4. Spiritual attack
5. Social pressure to fit-in



## **False teaching puts free people back in chains!**

1. Why we turn from the truth
2. How we determine the truth
3. The price of preserving the truth



# GALATIANS 1:1

This letter is from Paul, an **apostle**. I was not **appointed** **by** any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead.



The Bible didn't fall from the sky in a golden beam, leatherbound, with journaling margins and KJV English, while angels sang a heavenly chord. So, how was it determined what made it in the NT?

*Criteria #1 - Was it written by or directly associated with an Apostle of Jesus?*



## 2 Peter 3:15b-16

Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom God gave him—speaking of these things in all of his letters. Some of his comments are hard to understand, and those who are ignorant and unstable have twisted his letters to mean something quite different, just as they do with other parts of Scripture. And this will result in their destruction.



# 1 TIMOTHY 5:18

For the Scripture says, “You must not muzzle an ox to keep it from eating as it treads out the grain.” [Dt 25:4]  
And in another place, “Those who work deserve their pay!” [Lk 10:7]



## ACTS 2:42

All the believers devoted themselves to the (1) apostles' teaching, and to (2) fellowship, and to (3) sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to (4) prayer.



## **False teaching puts free people back in chains!**

1. Why we turn from the truth
2. How we determine the truth
3. The price of preserving the truth



# GALATIANS 1:10

Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.



## JOHN 6:67-68

So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?”  
Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.”



## JOHN 12:42-43

Many people did believe in Him, however, including some of the Jewish leaders. But they wouldn't admit it for fear that the Pharisees would expel them from the synagogue. For they loved human praise more than the praise of God.



Foreword by KEVIN J. VANHOOZER

TREVIN WAX

*The*  
THRILL  
*of*  
ORTHODOXY



*Rediscovering the Adventure  
of Christian Faith*



**When we lower the stakes of eternal truth, we have to raise the stakes of earthly matters to find purpose and adventure in life.**

- 1. Wise boundaries**
- 2. Spiritual power**
- 3. Eternal urgency**



- Intelligent design and human dignity > Atheism
- Salvation > Self-help
- World of wonders > Cosmic entropy
- Sanctification > Sin
- Make a difference > Make money
- "Love the 'Ville" > "Treat yo' self"
- Trust in God > Trust in public office & politicians
- Resurrection life > "You do you"
- "You live forever" > YOLO
- Follow Jesus > "Follow your heart"



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