

Why Legalism Stinks
Doing Church God's Way, part 5
July 10, 2011

Legalism: any attempt to help God out with extra rules.

1 Timothy 4:1-6

1The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 3They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. 4For everything God created is good and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.

Vs. 1 _____

Vs. 2 _____

Vs. 3 _____

Vs. 4-5 _____

Vs. 6 _____

Why legalism stinks:

- God says don't do it.
- Assumes God forgot something . Proverbs 30:5,6
- Produces spiritual arrogance. Proverbs 6:16-19
Luke 18:9-14
- Legalism is spiritually powerless. Colossians 2:22-23

Three verses used by legalists:

- 1 Corinthians 6:19
How it's used: _____
What it actually means: _____

- 1 Corinthians 8:9
How it's used: _____
What it actually means: _____

- 1 Thessalonians 5:22
How it's used: _____
What it actually means: _____

If we are being controlled by legalists, we are not being controlled by God.

We must relish the freedom of what the Spirit has told us without the arrogance to think it is for everyone.

Next Steps Today:

- ___ I will examine my own life for spiritual arrogance
- ___ I will not judge others according to my standards
- ___ I will be eating dinner at New Hope this Wednesday night
- ___ I will attend the Meet the Pastor lunch Sunday, July 17th