



Road vs. Ditch

2 Timothy 3:16(NLT)

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

1 Thessalonians 5:23(NLT)

Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

Matthew 7:13-14(NASB)

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴“For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Extremes:

- Rules VS Anything Goes
- Legalism VS Liberalism
- Narrow-Minded VS Open-Mindedness
- Intolerance VS Tolerance

2 Timothy 3:1-5(ICB)

¹Remember this! There will be many troubles in the last days. ²In those times people will love only themselves and money. They will brag and be proud. They will say evil things against others. They will not obey their parents. People will not be thankful or be the kind of people God wants.

³They will not have love for others. They will refuse to forgive others and will speak bad things. They will not control themselves. They will be cruel and will hate what is good. ⁴In the last days, people will turn against their

friends. They will do foolish things without thinking. They will be conceited and proud. They will love pleasure. They will not love God. ⁵They will continue to act as if they serve God, but they will not really serve God. Stay away from those people.

John 1:14(ICB)

The Word became a man and lived among us. We saw his glory—the glory that belongs to the only Son of the Father. The Word was full of grace and truth.

In the first 100 years of the church's existence, believers were NOT called Christians? They were referred to as members of the hades or "THE WAY".

John 14:6(NLT)

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Religious exercises without a going after Jesus in a genuine authentic relationship propels people into one of two extremes.

The first extreme would be Christians who are legalistic in the way they process their relationship with the Lord and others. Usually as time in life goes along, they do NOT have a genuine love and care for God and others. Their life is about rules but there's NO relationship.

The second group are people who sometimes break free from this legalistic way of thinking and eventually run to another extreme of becoming permanently soured from all church leadership, valid traditions, and even necessary Christian disciplines.

They go from legalistic enslavement to liberal irresponsibility.

The answer to all of this may be too simplistic. NOT easy, but SIMPLE. Here it is: Become more Christ-focused. Jesus is the WAY. Seek Him. He is the Word. He's our Messiah, Savior and He also wants to be the Lord of our lives. He's in charge.

Matthew 11:30(NLT)

For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."