

“Why Following ‘Church Rules’ Won’t Get You Near God”

Colossians 2:20-23

Pastor Jim Butcher – 03.22.15

A Question: If I’m doing the list of things that “good Christians” do, then why don’t I feel _____?

Back On Track: Many of us would rather have a neat, clean _____ than to follow Jesus. The problem is that’s _____ and not a _____.

- Colossians 2:20-22.

- Romans 6:14 – *“For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.”*

- Romans 7:6 – *“But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.”*

Why We Don’t Like That: There is a vagueness to _____ that makes many Christians and many churches uncomfortable.

- Galatians 2:19 – *“... I died to the law so that I might live for God.”*

- Romans 8:3-4 – *“For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son. ... And so He condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.”*

Why Is The Spirit-Led Way Better?

1. Rules don’t _____.

2. Rules miss the mark because each of us has our unique _____.

3. Life is an _____ with God this way.

Embracing The Spirit: The Spirit-led life works well only if you draw _____ and want to _____.

_____.