

**Romans 12:12 (ESV): Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.**

Can you think of a few things people put too much trust in when maybe they shouldn't?

**Text: Romans 2:12-29**

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

In verse 13 is there ever any man who could perfectly hear the Law and do the Law?

What are the three ways, in verse 15, that the Gentile has the Law?

In verse 16, Who does God judge man through?

In verse 29, what is true circumcision?

**APPLICATION**

Is the Law of God on all men's conscience?

Where do you seek your praise, from man or from God?

Religious rituals alone can't make us right with God. Whether we call them religious rituals, spiritual disciplines or practices, these sometimes can be viewed in a negative light. While there are some justifiable reasons for this, it's also true that spiritual disciplines can be beneficial for us if done with the right motives. **As you go through the following verses, write down some reasons why the disciplines referred to might be done for the wrong reasons and then how they could be done for the right reasons.**

**Acts 22:16** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>16</sup>And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.'

**Mark 12:41-44** *New International Version (NIV)*

*The Widow's Offering*

<sup>41</sup>Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup>But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

**Romans 2:29 (ESV): But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.**

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<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

**Matthew 6:9-13** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>9</sup> “This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,

<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come,  
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one.’

**Matthew 26:26-28** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>26</sup> While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

<sup>27</sup> Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

How might these disciplines help you personally if you were to focus on doing them with the right motives?

Can you think of any other spiritual disciplines you incorporate into your week? If so, what are they and how do they help you?

When it comes to our faith in Jesus, it’s more about relationship than rituals. Jesus often modeled for us how to have a loving relationship with others. What can be learned from God’s word and how Jesus modeled relationship-building that we could apply to our relationships?

**Colossians 3:13** *New International Version (NIV)* Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

**Matthew 9:36** *New International Version (NIV)*

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<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

**Ephesians 5:15-20** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,<sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.<sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.<sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**1 Peter 3:8-9** *New International Version (NIV)*

*Suffering for Doing Good*

<sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Which of the verses above is most challenging for you to apply when it comes to your relationships with others?

## **DIGGING DEEPER**

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[Bible Project- The Law](#)

[CIRCUMCISION](#)

[Bible Project - Heart](#)

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