



STUDY GUIDE

PART THREE: The Difference Between Jesus and Religion

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Pastor Andy continues to show us the memoir of Peter (Gospel called Mark) without the “religious baggage” that often has weighed it down. This certainly, helps us take a “new”, (much-needed) look at how Jesus and religion are so different. Try it on. Many of us will be enlightened, (corrected?), but also set free from some wrong ideas we may have had. Here we go...

1. What part of your (Christian) life might be in place more because of BEHAVIORAL CONFORMITY rather than what Jesus taught and demonstrated?

GOD LOVES PEOPLE (US) MORE THAN HIS _____
COMMANDMENTS

2. How does this change our perspective about our (or other people’s) sin?

When Jesus called Matthew and Matthew chose to follow Him, it shows us that:

THERE ARE NO _____ ON WHOM JESUS _____ TO FOLLOW HIM.
RESTRICTIONS INVITES

PEOPLE WE THINK WOULD NEVER BE INTERESTED IN JESUS MIGHT BE

READY AND WILLING (JUST WAITING) TO BE SET FREE IF WE HELP THEM

THERE ARE NO _____ ON WHOM JESUS _____ TO FOLLOW HIM.
RESTRICTIONS INVITES

JESUS SAW (SEES) EVERYONE (US) AS

_____ WHO NEED HELP.
THE SICK

MATTHEW COMPLETELY CHANGED, REPENTED AND

ADMITTED HE NEEDED HELP

3. How Did the religious people react to Jesus' invitation and interaction to Matthew?

JESUS' NEW MESSAGE WAS _____ WITH RELIGION
INCOMPATIBLE



*This reminds me of another one of my favorite stories – the secretive, late-night conference that Jesus had with Nicodemus (John 3), when Jesus told him that to really get it, you had to be **born again**. This is not a blend or adaptation, it's oil and water; old vs. new – a completely, totally different (new) person. As we look at our lives in Christ, are we completely different, new, reborn, **INCOMPATIBLE**, with the world and/or who we used to be?*

ANSWERS:

1. Personal answer. (How we view non-Christians, what we personally practice, what we believe and instruct others, standards or measurements we hold to and expect of others, etc.)
2. It's easy to think someone's sin (not obeying His commandments), causes God to turn His back, but that's not right.
3. It provoked them to anger and caused them to challenge it.