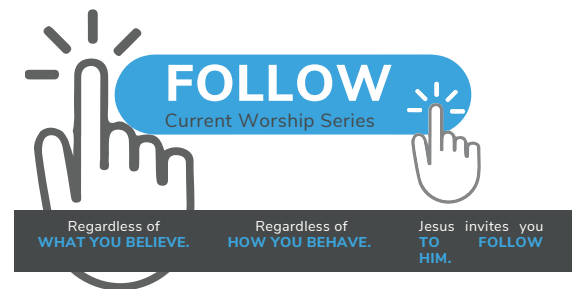


# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## WEEK 6: UnFollow the Rules



### CONNECT MEMBERS TO EACH OTHER

what are some habits or traditions in Christianity that you find daunting to adhere to?

What habits and traditions strengthen your connection to God?

### CONNECT MEMBERS TO GOD

The **Follow** series has conceptualized discipleship as a journey. As Christians, we advance along a path. Sometimes we stumble, and other times we succeed in advancing.

Have you ever considered your faith journey as one that moves in steps?

Have you ever felt like you have taken steps backward? Describe this time to your group and share what (or who) helped you back on the path again.

### LIFE APPLICATION

Acts 15:19 offers some (slightly paraphrased) advice that is relevant to the church today: **"We should not make it difficult for those who are turning to God."**

Have you ever experienced obstacles in your faith journey that were imposed by people and not God?

Why do you think we are motivated to put barriers in place? Do you think they come from a place of good intentions?

Discuss the differences between rules we should *not* "unFollow" (e.g., the 10 Commandments) and the ones we should abandon.

### BIBLE READING

The reading from Galatians reveals tension in the early church. Thousands of years of precedent were being challenged and people were justifiably confused about how to behave in accordance with their new beliefs. Paul, however, makes it clear in Galatians 2:15-16 that the old way has passed: **"...a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified."**

Do you think you would find it difficult to give up the traditions you were taught from an early age?

Does it surprise you that Paul needs to call out Peter for hypocrisy (i.e., shouldn't Peter know that no one is justified by works)?

Paul seems to imply that Peter stopped associating with Gentiles he previously was friendly with out of cowardice when rule-following Jews came to town. How is this consistent with Peter's character as we've come to know it? What does this say about God that He uses a guy like Peter to spread His message?

### STOP AND THINK

Pastor Jim shared this statement during his message: "Being an unbeliever doesn't disqualify you from following Jesus." Discuss what it is about Jesus's message that would make an unbeliever follow Him and consider whether or not following eventually leads to belief.