



NEW HORIZONS SMALL GROUPS

Sermon Title: Christ Above All - More Than Religion

Scripture Reference: Colossians 2:16-23

Connection:

- What do you remember most from last week's sermon?
- How did you hear God's voice or sense His presence this past week?
- What is your favorite memory from October?

Reflection:

- Summarize this week's sermon in one to three sentences. What was the main point of the message?
- What did the message say about you, God's people or the world?

Application:

1. **Read Romans 14:1-4.** Pastor Ryan reminded us that people sometimes weaponize religious expectations against others, judging their faith based on personal convictions rather than biblical truth. Have you ever felt judged by other Christians for something that wasn't necessarily sinful? How did that affect your faith, and how can we avoid doing the same thing to others?
2. **Read 1 Timothy 2:5-6.** Paul reminds us that Jesus is our mediator and that we don't need someone else to gain access to God. Have you ever felt like someone else was more spiritually connected to God than you? What would change in your prayer life if you truly believed you had direct access to God through Jesus?
3. Spiritual practices like prayer, fasting, giving, and serving are good things, but they can become religious obligations rather than expressions of our relationship with Jesus. Are there areas of your spiritual life where you're simply going through the motions instead of genuinely growing closer to Christ?

4. **Read Galatians 5:1, 13-14.** Jesus has set us free, but that freedom isn't permission to live however we want. What does living in freedom while still pursuing holiness look like in your everyday life? Is there an area where you struggle to find that balance?
5. Pastor Ryan emphasized that doing something spiritually difficult doesn't necessarily mean we're growing spiritually. Paul warns that religious rules and self-discipline alone cannot overcome our sinful desires. What's one area of your life where you've been trying harder to become a better Christian rather than relying on Jesus to transform you? What would it look like to surrender that area to Him this week?