

What's Going On Here?

Romans 6:15-23, Acts 2:42-47

What is a counter-cultural Christian?

- Set free from sin
- A slave to righteousness
- Called to holiness
- Possessor of eternal life

The problem with being counter-cultural

- We are different, not the norm
- We are a minority, not the majority
- We are for holiness, not just against sin

The disciplines of practice

- Mandatory attendance: Physically
- Full engagement: Mentally
- Willing reception: Attitude
- Committed participation: Actively

Joining God's holy huddle: Worship

- A place of unity
- A place of encouragement
- A place of repetition
- A place of strategy
- A place of empowerment

The Spirit-filled Church Huddle

- Devoted to discipleship
 - Teaching, fellowship, sacrament, prayer
- Interdependent community
- Sacrificial generosity
- Praise-filled worship
- Divine-inspired evangelism

What is my reason for being here?

- For the glory of God
- For the benefit of the body
- For the fulfillment of obedience

What do I really need this morning?

- Grace of God's forgiveness: confession
- Grace of God's presence: affirmation
- Grace of God's empowerment: faith

15What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! 16Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. 18You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

19I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. 20When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. 21What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! 22But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. 23For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

42They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.