



Rules

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Stepping Stones Community Church

Introduction:

- Faith has a starting point
- Religion and rules

1. Rules always assume a relationship

- Family model
- Club model
- Neighborhood Association model

2. God's path to rules

- 10 Commandments
- Started with Abraham
- Abraham's people became slaves
- God delivered them through Moses
- Rules come after relationship

¹ Then God gave the people all these instructions: ² "I am the LORD your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. ³ "You must not have any other god but me. Exodus 20:1-3 NLT

3. Rules are a confirmation of - not a condition of - a relationship with God

4. With God, relationship precedes rules

5. God's promise was for all humanity

For Abraham will certainly become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed through him. Genesis 18:18 NLT

He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 49:6 NLT

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 NLT

Two Questions:

1. Growing up, did you feel like religion was based on the:
 - Family model?
 - Club model?
 - Neighborhood Association model?
2. Which model do you feel like you are in now?

Next Steps:

- ☐ I will answer the "Two Questions" as I review my personal faith journey this week
- ☐ Develop my relationship with God instead of focusing on rules: _____
- ☐ I struggle with religion because of rules, pray for me
- ☐ Attend or listen to all of this message series
- ☐ _____