

EGF-5: Following the Crowd
EGF Group Bible Study 1-29-11

1. **How does God determine whether or not we are on His side? Matthew 7:21; Romans 6:16.**

2. **How do we best demonstrate our love and loyalty for God? John 8:31; 14:15; 1 John 2:4; Psalms 40:8.**

3. **When the commands of God and men conflict, whom did Peter say we should obey? Acts 5:29.**

4. **According to Jesus, why did the hypocrites act religious? Matthew 6:2, 5**

The Bible tells us that *"man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."* 1 Samuel 16:7. A genuine Christian will be much more concerned about what God thinks of him than what the world thinks.

5. **Is it generally safe to follow the crowd? Exodus 23:2; Matthew 7:13-14; 1 Peter 3:20.**

6. **What does Jesus say about putting the traditions of men before the commandments of God? Mark 7:6-9**

"The teaching of men is wholly different from the teaching of Christ. There is a constant tendency on the part of man, to present his own theories and opinions as matter worthy of attention, even when they have no foundation in truth. Men are very tenacious for their erroneous ideas and idle opinions. They will hold firmly to the traditions of men, and defend them as vigorously as if they were the veritable truth. Jesus declared that every one that was of the truth would hear his voice." White, *Review and Herald*, January 7, 1890.

7. **Will true Christianity be popular in the last days? Matthew 24:9; 2 Timothy 3:12; Revelation 12:17.**

8. **Is it possible to serve both God and the crowd? Matthew 6:24; 12:30.**

9. **Is it safe to love a friend or family member more than Jesus? Matthew 10:37; Luke 14:26; Matthew 12:50.**

10. **Is it wise to put a prosperous career or earthly treasures before Jesus? Matthew 16:26; Luke 12:15, Matthew 6:33.**

11. **Is it safe to continue disobeying God's will after He has shown us the truth? Hosea 4:6; Hebrews 10:26.**

“God works by the manifestation of His Spirit to reprove and convict the sinner; and if the Spirit's work is finally rejected, there is no more that God can do for the soul. The last resource of divine mercy has been employed. The transgressor has cut himself off from God, and sin has no remedy to cure itself. There is no reserved power by which God can work to convict and convert the sinner. "Let him alone" (Hosea 4:17) is the divine command. Then "there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." Hebrews 10:26, 27.” White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p405.

12. **What will happen to those who persist in rejecting the truth? 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12; John 3:19.**

13. **Will those who persecute God's people in the last days believe they are doing the right thing? John 16:2.**

14. **How did Peter describe those who have learned the truth but refuse to follow it? 2 Peter 2:21-22.**

15. **Does following Jesus involve some struggle and self denial? Luke 9:23.**

16. **Is it safe to procrastinate or postpone a decision to follow Jesus? Hebrews 4:7; 2:3; 2 Corinthians 6:2.**

17. **What benefits come as a result of accepting and following the truth in Jesus? Psalms 119:165; John 8:32; 1 Peter 1:22.**

18. **What question did Jesus ask Peter three times? John 21:17.**