A CARPENTER, A CROSS & A CROWN

A Series through the life of Christ



This Man Is Dating Someone Even Though He's Married. Sounds Disgusting, But I'm On His Side.

If You Want People to Grow Spiritually, Quit Telling Them to Study the Bible

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 Jesus called a little child to stand among them. 3 "Truly I tell you," He said, "unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

- 5 And whoever welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me.
- 6 But if anyone causes one of these little
- ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a large millstone
- hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.
- 7 Woe to the world for the causes of sin.
- These stumbling blocks must come, but woe to the man through whom they come!

8 If your hand or your foot causes you to fall into sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than to have two hands and two feet and be thrown into the eternal fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to fall into sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

Matthew 18 10 See that you do not look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. 11 For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. 12 What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?

Matthew 18 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices more over that one sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. 14 In the same way, your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

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John 1 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God-13 children born not of blood, nor of the desire or will of man, but born of God.

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5 Shocking Truths About the Church, that if every believer would truly believe them, it would radically transform the Church overnight

Matthew 18 5 And whoever welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me.

Shocking Truth #1 We are to treat other believers as if they were Jesus Christ himself

Galatians 2 20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

Matthew 18

6 But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

Shocking Truth #2 It would be better to suffer a violent death by drowning rather than to cause a believer to sin

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Shocking Truth #3

We are to deal drastically with our own sin

1. We are to deal with sin in our own lives at any cost

2. We are to protect others by dealing with our own sin – it is an act of selfless love

3. When someone confronts us and exposes our sin....

....we should be more concerned with conquering our own sin than we are in reacting angrily to the one who confronts us

Matthew 18 10 See that you do not look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

Shocking Truth #4 As children of God, we are to honor each other as spiritual equals

Galatians 3 26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. 16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Philippians 2

1 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being likeminded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. **3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain** conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

- 12 What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?
- 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices more over that one sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.
- 14 In the same way, your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish.

Matthew 18

12 What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?

13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices more Shocking Truth #5

If the Church truly reflects God's heart, we are most concerned with lifting up the weak and recovering those who have gone astray

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