

Introduction – *Neighborhood Party*

SERMON SERIES
*“Certified Purveyors
of the High Life!”*

Text In Question of the Week:
Ever donated something astronomical - like a kidney?

What is the aim? Matter and Manner
(John 5:39-40)

FIRST SEVEN WEEKS

1. Weeks 1-4: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
2. Weeks 5-7: The Inner Life of our Thoughts, Feelings, and Will

This Week
Love God. Love Neighbor.

Matthew 22:34-40

Jesus’ previous interaction with the Sadducees - Matt. 22:23-33

The Pharisees regroup - Matt. 22:34-36

Jesus’ response - Matt. 22:37-40

1. Love God
2. Love Neighbor
3. ALL means ALL

Application – *Are you experiencing the high life through loving God and loving your neighbor?*

Matthew 22:34-40

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Matthew 22:29-33

29 But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. 30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. 31 And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 32 ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.” 33 And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Neighborhood Gathering





Atmosphere
STRICTLY LEAKAGE

A neon sign with a red border and yellow text. The text is arranged in four lines, centered within the border. The sign is set against a black background.

CERTIFIED
PURVEYORS
OF THE
HIGH LIFE

Text In Question of the Week

Ever donated something ASTRONOMICAL –
like a kidney?

Text/Email to Cor@hopecc.com



What is the aim of this series?

The difference between believers and unbelievers as to knowledge is not so much in the matter of their knowledge as in the manner of their knowing.

~John Owen, *The Mortification of Sin*, in *Overcoming Sin and Temptation*, ed. Kelly Kopic and Justin Taylor, 117. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2006.



WEEK #1: Do you want God for God?

How are you getting filled?

"Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in thee."

~Augustine of Hippo, 354-430



Week #3:

The Holy Spirit is personal

1. The Spirit speaks
2. The Spirit bears witness
3. The Spirit teaches/reminds
4. The Spirit hears
5. The Spirit helps/intercedes



WEEK #2



Week #4:

The Holy Spirit is essential

1. The Spirit informs specifically
2. The Spirit empowers continually



The Inner Life



“One of the most striking evidences of sinful human nature lies in the universal propensity for downward drift. In other words, it takes thought, resolve, energy, and effort to bring about reform...where such virtues are absent, the drift is invariably toward compromise, comfort, indiscipline, sliding disobedience and decay that advances, sometimes at a crawl and sometimes at a gallop, across generations. People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord.”

D.A. Carson, Professor of New Testament,
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
For the Love of God, volume 2, Jan. 23 entry

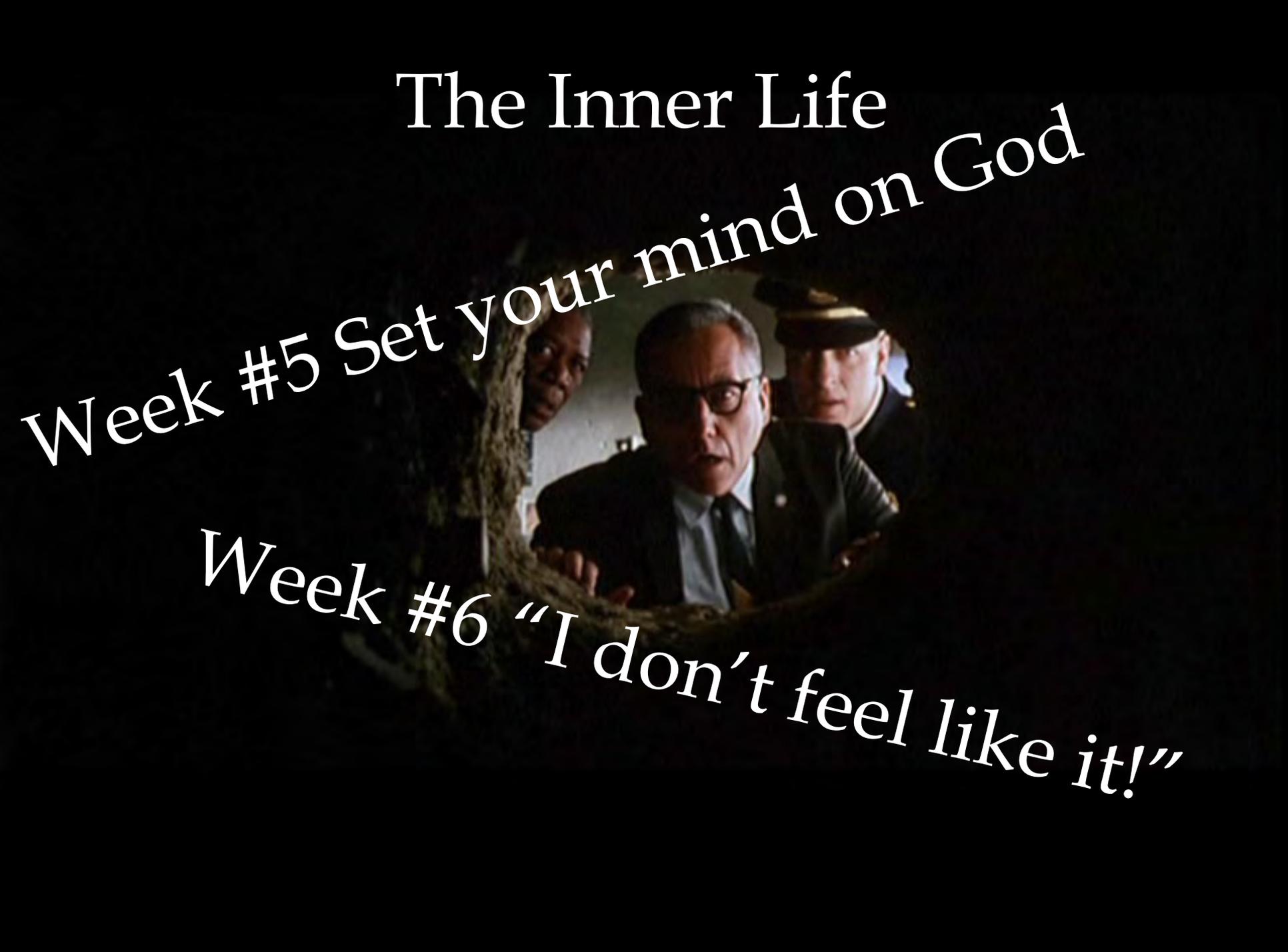


The Inner Life

Week #5 Set your mind on God



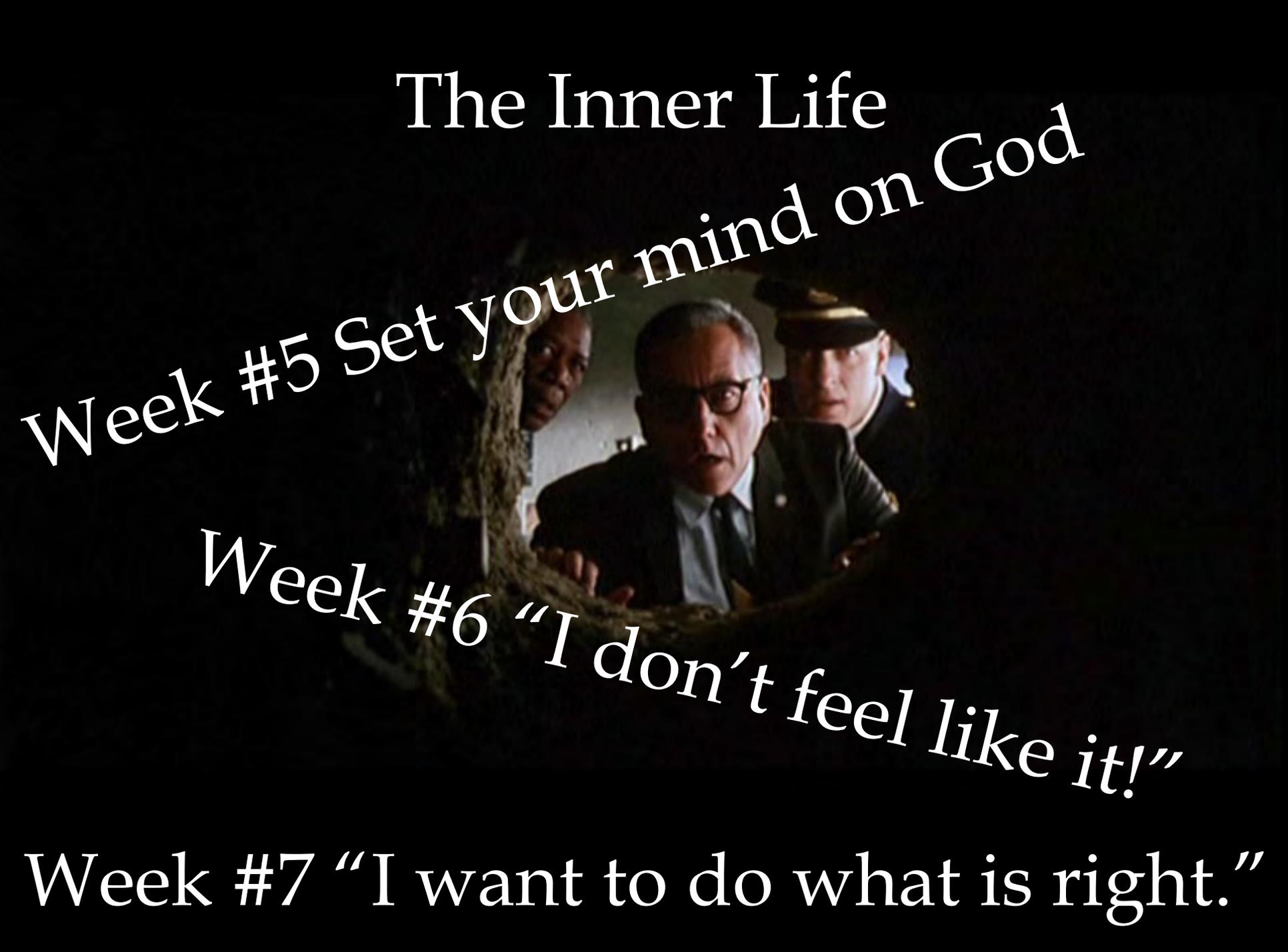
The Inner Life



Week #5 Set your mind on God

Week #6 "I don't feel like it!"

The Inner Life



Week #5 Set your mind on God

Week #6 "I don't feel like it!"

Week #7 "I want to do what is right."

The internal struggle

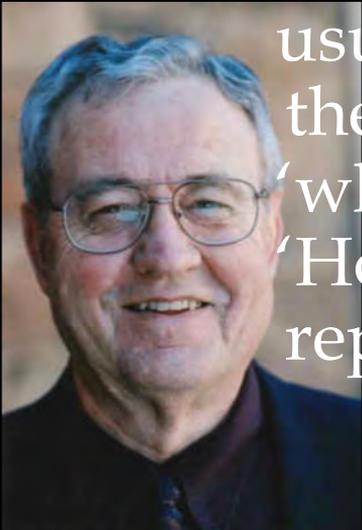
Romans 7:13-25

¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

The Precious (and Problematic) Will

Choice, the *exercise* of will, is valued and carefully guarded throughout life; and at the end of life we want to think we uniquely 'have made a difference' – always for good of course. But such an outcome is not automatically so – and certainly not so to the degree it could be and should be. For the human will in the individual is not only precious, it is a problem...Everyone has the experience of willing in a way that is contrary to other choices they have already made or ones that should be made. Human life in its usual forms is characterized by conflict within the will and between wills...The question, 'what good can I bring about?' is replaced by 'How can I get my way?' ...as exaltation of self replaces submission and service to God.



Dallas Willard, *Renovation of the Heart*

“Evil lies close at hand!”

Romans 7:13-25

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

“Thanks be to God!”

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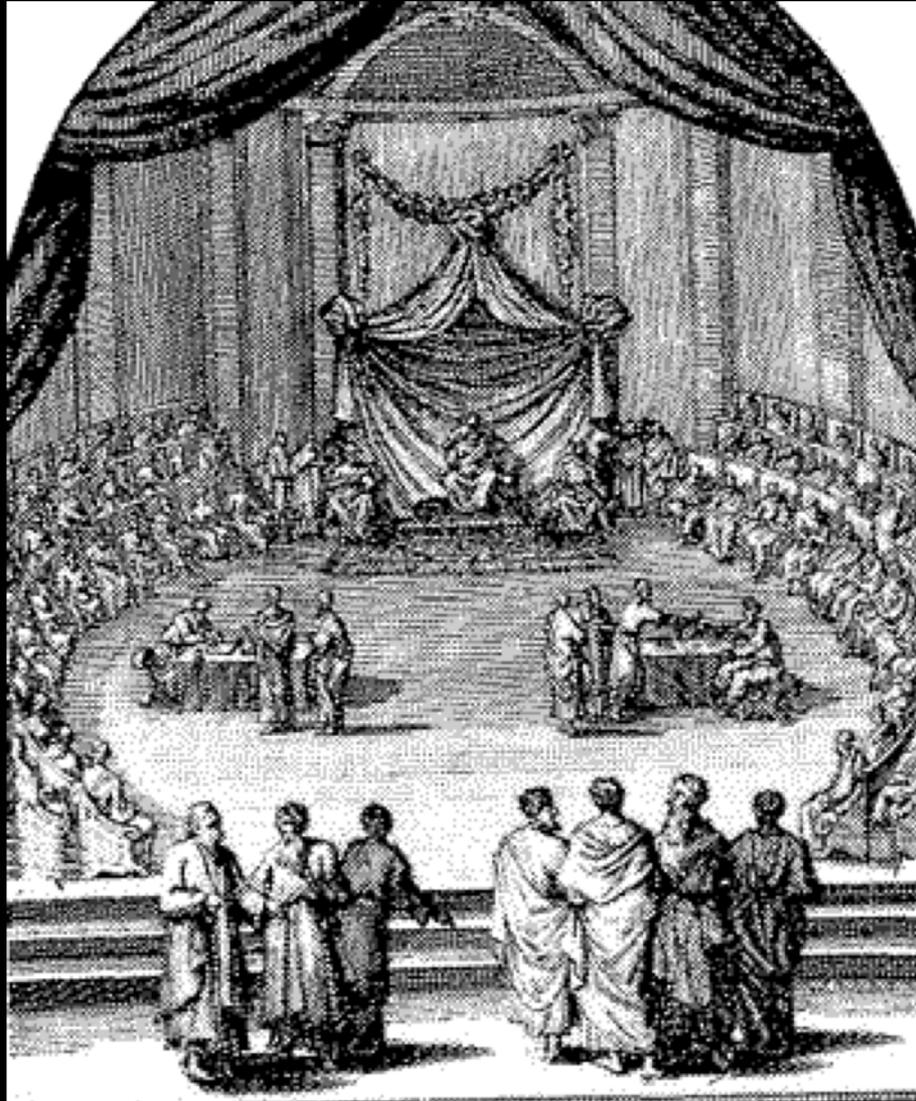
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Sadducees silenced!

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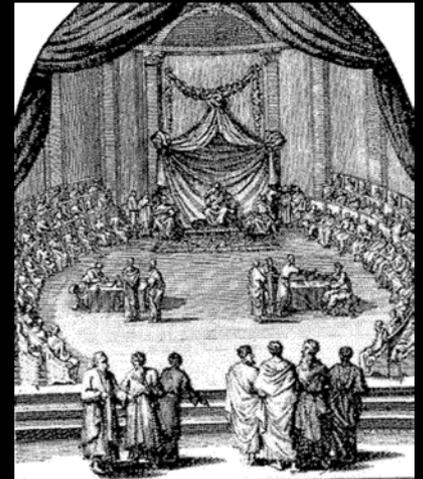
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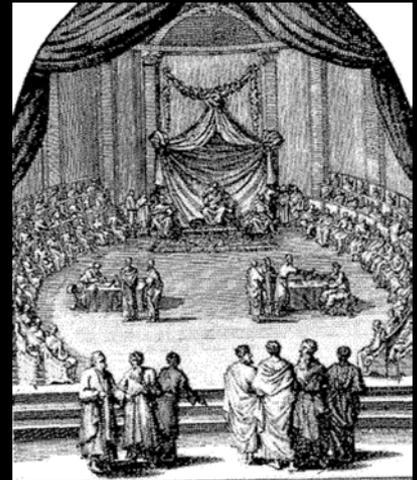
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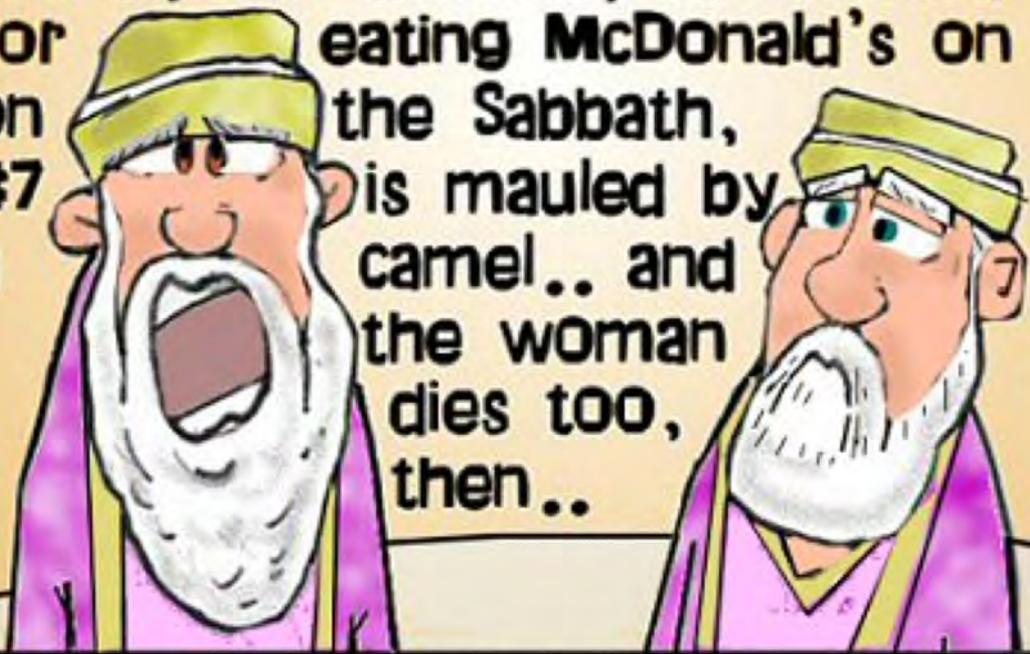
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5. Did not believe in the resurrection or a coming Messiah



THE BACK PEW - *JEFF LARSON*

What if a man's brother dies so he remarries his brother's wife then chokes on a chicken bone, next bro is hit by a bus, 4th bro has a piano fall on him, 5th bro slips in shower, 6th stoned for eating McDonald's on the Sabbath, #7 is mauled by a camel.. and the woman dies too, then..



<http://thebackpew.com>

In his attempt to trick Jesus, Sal the Saducee became bogged down in the detail of his story. **Mark 12:18-27**

Sadducees silenced!

Matthew 22:23-33

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Pharisees Regroup

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Who are the Pharisees?

1. Religious teachers and “gatekeepers” of the law
2. Viewed Roman occupying authority as God’s punishment
3. Viewed Torah along with Prophets and other writings as authoritative, including rabbinic interpretations (i.e. 635 additional laws)



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Love God. Love Neighbor.

Jesus manifests his perfect union with the will of God as revealed in the Old Testament law and prophets. He has in fact nothing to add to the commandments of God, except this, that he keeps them...It was the error of Israel to put the law in God's place, to make the law their God and their God a law...For the Christian worship cannot be divorced from the service of the brethren, as it was with the rabbis. If we despise our brother our worship is unreal, and it forfeits every divine promise.



Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Cost of Discipleship, 122, 128

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My “Love God. Love Neighbor.” challenge

1. Couch and the Clicker
2. Clean email inbox
3. espn.com
4. I want to meet and talk to Sean
5. I want to share about me
6. I want to see the garden dedication for Sami, the dog
7. I want to meet our new neighbors
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
12. Genuine love of God and love of neighbor

What's the richest expression of love
you've had from another person?



What's the richest expression of love you've had from another person?

Twice in my life I've had extreme circumstances where I've needed inexpensive places to live. Both times and by different families [I] was taken in. The fact two families that were strangers to me opened their home to allow me to not only live there, but become a part of their family. I've never been more served or loved in my entire life. In return because of the loved I've received, I also learned about loving others.



What's the richest expression of love you've had from another person?

When my mom stayed with me in the hospital after a really difficult (and kind of scary) surgery in high school. She certainly wasn't expected to, but she hunkered down in the bed next me, knowing that having someone I knew in the cold, dark hospital room would mean all the difference in the world. It did.



What's the richest expression of love you've had from another person?

My step-grandfather somehow knew I was a lost little boy that really needed a dad's/grandpa's love. He took a real interest in me, loved me lots, took me to the saw mill he worked at part-time, tried teaching me to carve & he did one thing my earthly dad refused to do, he called me, "Son". To this day I thank Jesus for Grandpa's role in my life & even though he's been gone for almost 31 years now I still miss him deeply.



Neighborhood Gathering



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through loving God and
loving your neighbor?