

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35

Union Valley/Royse City, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

August 21, 2016 – Bored in Church

Things we enjoy vs things we endure...

I enjoy getting paid	I endure going to work
I enjoy being married	I endured the wedding
I enjoy preaching	I endure studying

I enjoy the rain, but Caidee endures the rain...there were more "I'm bored" statements this past week, then "I want to" ...

When you get bored, what follows close behind that? You get in Trouble!

Have you ever been bored in church?

When I was a kid, we had a preacher who would take his coat off when the sermon got going really good, he was hollering, banging the pulpit. Me and my friends would have a contest on what time he would take his coat off, and I got in trouble the Sunday I guessed it to the second!

Being bored in church is not the worst problem; the longer you are bored you begin to endure church and the more likely we are to endure God.

Main idea: Christianity is a relationship to be enjoyed, not a religion to be endured.

Matthew 11:28-30

28 Come to me, Jesus says come to me, don't come to a list of rules, don't work yourself to death

All you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

The people Jesus was talking to were tired of trying to keep all 600 plus laws that supposedly kept you right with God.

My top Five Weird Old Testament Laws:

Deut. 25:11-12

5. If two men were fighting, the wives can't step in and try and stop the fight by (hitting the man in the strike zone) If she does her hand must be cut off.

Lev. 11:21; 17:10

4. Its OK to eat locusts, crickets and grasshoppers but you can't eat a rare steak, no blood showing.

Ex. 23:19

3. Don't mix meat and milk of the same animal. They interpreted this to mean you can't eat cheese and meat together. NO cheese on your hamburger!

Ex. 21:17

2. A kid who curses their parents had to be put to death

Numbers 5:11-31

1. First lie detector test...if a man thought his wife was having an affair, he would take her to the priest. The priest would get dust from the floor of the temple and mix it with water and she would have to drink it. If it made her sick, she was guilty. If not, she was innocent.

On a more serious note, there was always someone telling you that you were breaking a law, and it got very old very fast, most at least mentally just gave up.

Jesus' answer to this, (maybe he looked over at a Donkey or Ox hitched to a wagon or plow)...He says you're hooked to the wrong thing.

29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Acts 15:10 Now then, why do you try and test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear.

Galatians 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by the yoke of slavery. (to sin)

30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

If your relationship with God feels difficult ... you're doing it wrong.

Jesus is saying, "I want you to enjoy me, not endure me."

God is a relationship to be enjoyed NOT a religion to be endured.

Some specific things that we begin to endure and not enjoy...

Enduring Religion

Enjoying God

Prayer

It's hard to do and then the
Preacher says pray with your
Wife for your enemies

This is where you just can't wait
to talk to God, like someone
you haven't talked to in a while.
When the name pops up on the
Screen, you get excited.

Bible

It's so hard to read, understand
And the Rangers are playing!

I just want to know more about God

Going to Church

You get excited at the thought of
Church being cancelled or when
You have a legitimate excuse

I can't wait to be around other
Christians and see what God is
doing in their life

Serving

I don't want to get too involved
the Or they are going to ask me to do
Something

Every time I stay up all night with
the teenagers, I feel like I am serving
God

Giving

They just want my money and they
Waste it anyway.

I'm so grateful I had a part of
Sending those kids to camp
So they will start their lives
Out the right way!

God will not make you do any of these things, but if you just come to Jesus,
you will find yourself WANTING to do these things.

Two Practical things...

Challenge yourself – people who are challenged are seldom bored. Step out of
what is comfortable and come to Jesus.

Change your scenery – not necessarily going to another church, but like ladies
changing the furniture in the house...rearrange your life around Jesus.

Main idea – Christianity is a relationship to be enjoyed, not a religion to be
endured.