

***JOHN 4: 23-24, "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."***

I believe that every believer should be a part of a local church. They should support their church and its ministries with their time, talent and treasure. That being said it would do us well to consider that sometimes there is a big difference between religious activity and Kingdom activity. Religion focuses on doing, while Kingdom focuses on being. One caters to the flesh as it fulfills the desire to justify one's self before God with activity that creates noise and busyness but with little impact on the surrounding culture. The other pursues a relationship with God and others and their only desire is to see someone have a genuine encounter with God. Kingdom people are not enamored with demonstrations of power. They are focused and celebrate the development of the fruit of the Holy Spirit and of personal and corporate growth of such virtues as love, integrity and genuine contentment and joy. Kingdom people are not "spooky" but naturally supernatural. They have no need to be hyped up. They do not always need a "word". They know the living Word! They simply live their lives in Kingdom power while demonstrating the authority and power of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is challenging us to honestly assess our life and walk. He is asking us to search our hearts to see if we have substituted religious activity and "holy noise" for a genuine, intimate relationship with God through Jesus. It is time to shun the trappings of religion and embrace the call of God to step out of our box. Jesus desires to take us on a journey that will allow us to influence lives in places and ways that we never could if we stay where we are. A lost and dying world is waiting. What will your response be?

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