

Losing My Religion
Part 7: **Tribal Identities**
Darren Sides
Southside Baptist Church
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Passage [READ IT]:

Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 10:25-37

Principles [KNOW THEM]:

What identities do you hold?

How to move beyond your tribal identity?

- Recognize Tribalism is part of a **sin nature**

- Only when your **identity** is in Christ are you able to **transcend** your tribal identities and truly love your neighbor.

Practices [DO THEM]:

Questions to consider:

1. What does “having an identity in Christ mean to you?
2. Have you allowed your tribal identity to take the place of your identity in Christ?
3. Have you ever identified with Jesus in the first place?

Daily Readings:

Sunday: Numbers 19

Monday: Matthew 5

Tuesday: Ephesians 2

Wednesday: Colossians 3

Thursday: John 10

Friday: Matthew 10

Saturday: Deuteronomy 6

Check out these books on this topic:

The End of Religion, Bruxy Cavey

The Jesus I Never Knew, Philip Yancey

The Barbarian Way, Erwin McManus

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic]

1. Do you have any lingering questions or thoughts related to this week's teaching or daily readings?
 2. Do you have trouble going against the group around you? Why or why not?
- Is it difficult for you to break "the rules?" Why or why not?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

3. Read Luke 10:30-37
 - a. What information do we know of the man who went down from Jerusalem?
 - b. Why did the priest pass the man on the road (Numbers 11:11-13)?
 - c. When have you walked the other direction? Why did you do it?
 - d. Why did Jesus mention both the priest and the Levite?
 - e. Who were the Samaritans to the Jews?
 - f. Who is a Samaritan to you (not in the sense of being a "Good Samaritan," but just a Samaritan, as the term would have meant to a first-century Jew)?
 - g. Why was the Samaritan's actions above and beyond what was necessary?
4. Read Galatians 3:23-29
 - a. How does the law dictate a priest or Levite should act in the presence of a dead or bloody individual? (See Numbers 19:11-13)
 - b. How does Christ fulfill the law, so we do not have to act in this way?
 - c. In what way was the law a tutor or guardian that led you to Christ?
 - d. How has Christ broken down the barriers separating groups of people in your life?
 - e. How does "being one in Christ" give you hope?

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

6. In the story of the Good Samaritan, three attitudes toward material goods are demonstrated: a) The thieves - "What's yours is mine, and I'm going to get it"; b) The religious leaders - "What's mine is mine, and I'm going to keep it"; c) The Samaritan - "What's mine is yours, and I'm going to share it." When do you play the role of each? How is this a reflection of your love for God right now? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.