



Discussion Guide for “Old Time Religion”

Spark Week 4

Religion is far too often nothing but platitudes. How many times have you heard, "God has a plan," or "It is what it is"? No wonder Marx called religion "the opiate of the masses!" But, at least for the prophet Isaiah, religion wasn't meant to pacify. Rather, God's arrival among us is meant to wake us up. No wonder God shows up among the marginalized, those most badly in need of justice! If we're going to find Jesus, we're going to find him among those who are most vulnerable.

Passage for Sacred Reading:

Sacred Reading is a way of reading Scripture with an eye toward transformation, not just information. Get a [step-by-step guide here](#). The passage for this week's sacred reading is Micah 6:1-8.

Questions for Discussion

1. Christians are divided over which is more important – personal holiness or social justice. Why is this a division? Which side do you tend to lean toward?
2. Micah 6 is framed as a courtroom drama. Why do you think the prophet used a legal setting for this prophecy?
3. Review the people's response to God in vv6-7. How do they misunderstand God? What does this misunderstanding look (or sound) like today?
4. Review God's instruction in verse 8. What does each of the three words mean? What do they look like in our lives today? At Catalyst?
5. What does it look like for us to balance personal holiness and social justice?