

BAD TAKES

Life Group discussion guide, week 1

KEY PASSAGES:

Romans 5:8 While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:1 There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Mark 3:38 "Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter."

Eph 2:8-9 It is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

John 10:28 "I give them eternal life... no one will snatch them out of my hand"

Romans 8:39 Nothing in all creation can separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Genesis 1:31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Genesis 1:28-29 God blessed them and said to them, "be fruitful and increase in number, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the seas and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food."

Genesis 2:2-3 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Romans 1:20 For from the creation of the world the invisible things of Him are clearly seen, being understood through the things that are made.

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised.

John 10:10 The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance!

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

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the absolute worst "bad take" (bad idea / perspective / opinion / angle on something) you've ever heard? (The funnier the better.)
2. What's a bad take you've had in the past that ended up being wrong or misguided?
3. Regarding church and faith, have there been any bad takes you were introduced to growing up that you now know were Biblically inaccurate or unhealthy?
4. Read Genesis 1:31 above. After God created humanity to place in His creation, He said it all was 'very good'--*Good* being a Hebrew word that specifically refers to the human sensory experience, and *very* being a Hebrew word meaning "powerfully strong and exceeding all expectations." Does this change how you've viewed this account in the past?
5. One of the Westminster Catechisms from the 1600s that has shaped many denominational doctrines opens with this: **Q:** what is the chief end of man? **A:** To glorify God, and to enjoy him forever. What does this communicate to you?
6. Read John 10:10 and Galatians 5:1 above. Pleasure and enjoyment done God's way brings freedom, and can be a means of worship and expressing gratefulness... but pursued for their own sake, result in slavery and destruction. Can you think of examples of each?
7. What is an area in your life & faith practice where you lean towards drudgery and rule following, and could maybe stand to loosen up and enjoy God's freedom in what He has provided? Contrarily, what is an area you lean towards not taking God's boundaries seriously enough and could stand to rein things in a bit?