

“I hate rules!” I still feel the sting as my children turned on me when I uttered those words in a restaurant in the Andes Mountains of Colombia. I was pontificating on the curse of legalism, unaware that they were listening. They struck quickly, reciting my edicts, indicting me at a moment of sudden vulnerability. Yes, in our common humanity most of us bristle against “laws” that stifle our intended exercise of freedom. So, what impact has legalism had on your walk with God? How do you know where you stand with God from day to day? As you think about your relationship with the Almighty today, ponder this important Biblical truth: ***the just shall live by faith.***

Legalism messes with us (2:1-5; 11-14)

We are Justified by faith (2:15-16)

We live by faith (2:20-21)

Personal Application and Conversations

1. Come on now, we all like certain rules, don't we? Why do you find comfort or security in certain forms of legalism?
2. How has legalism within your spiritual experience distracted you from true intimacy with God and His people?
3. Ask the Lord to help you write your response to the following: how do you know you are living by faith?
4. How does being "crucified with Christ" look in your daily living?
5. How do your intimate relationships with God's people help you to live by faith in the Son of God?



Living by Faith

Galatians 2:15-21

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