

York Street Small Groups

Sermon Based Studies

Sunday 11th June 2023

FAITH RUNS DEEP
Week 5: That Other Religion



These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.



YORK STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST

To listen to this message again please head to the York St Website or download from iTunes.

Webpage: yorkst.com.au

Questions have been adapted from the Faith Runs Deep discussion guide. Copies are available from the church office.

INTRODUCTION

Australia is a sports-mad country with almost religious fervor. Karl states, 'Winning doesn't deliver everything you need, you need religion as well.'

1. What is it about winning that is both satisfying and unsatisfying at the same time?
2. Why do people need faith as well?

WATCH THE EPISODE

DISCUSSION

3. What drives you in your life? What breaks or has broken you in your life?

4. Read Philippians 3:12-14

Paul is writing to the church in Philippi and uses sporting and athletic imagery to describe the Christian life.

- a) What is Paul striving after? Read the verses that precede this passage to discover what Paul is striving for (v8-11).
- b) Why do you think Paul wants us to “strain” in a life of faith?
- c) Many see faith and spirituality as contemplative, quiet and serene, yet Paul here gives a very active image of a Christian life. Can both these views co-exist?

5. Idolatry is mistakenly understood as worshiping statues or human-made objects. But the Bible makes it clear that idolatry is allowing something other than God to control your life, to dictate your decisions. Or to put it another way, it’s putting something else in God’s place of authority.

In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul has a long discussion about whether Christians should eat meat offered to idols. His conclusion (v31) is ‘So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.’

Read 1 Corinthians 10:27-11:1

- a) What principles can you discover about idolatry?
- b) How might these principles apply to worshipping sport, or any other activity.

REFLECTION

In the 21st century we don't tend to worship things but rather desires. People can desire comfort, control, power, affection, authority, respect, independence, achievement and many other things. All these things are good ... until they take the place of God!

Which desires in your life could take (or are taking) the place of God?

What do you do to achieve the fulfilment of that desire?