

# Let It Out: "Square Pegs And Round Holes"

Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Romans 1:22-23

## **Getting on the Same Page**

If we are Christians, God has filled us with his supernatural presence. He has given us his Holy Spirit, who guides us into truth and empowers us to live for Jesus. As Christians, God gives us himself so we can share him with our world.

The Bible tells us that we are all idol-worshippers by nature. We don't naturally want to worship God as God. Instead, we take created things and worship them; things like our careers, relationships, status, and comfort. We want to control our own lives, so we take these good things and turn them into ultimate things. The problem is, none of them can deliver. All of us have a Jesus-shaped hole in our lives. Only he can fill this hole. Only Jesus can give us ultimate meaning, hope, joy and peace. Jesus' presence and love is exactly what everyone needs. If you have Jesus, you have what the world needs.

So how do we share our faith with the world; with people God has placed in our lives? A good first step is to be close to people that don't know Jesus. Loving and befriending others is always the first, best way to share our faith. We want to be close enough to them that, when their idols fail them, we can offer them the hope we have. We can share with them that we go

to church and that we are a Christian. We can share with them how Jesus is working in our lives and how he has made our lives better.

As Christians, in order to be set apart from others, we need to examine the idols in our own lives. Perhaps we have gotten caught up in things like approval, achievement, or comfort. We need to practice surrendering these idols to Jesus. Jesus becomes more beautiful to us as we take his sacrificial love for us deeper into our hearts.

There will never be a perfect time to share our faith in Christ with others. We will always struggle with sin in this life. But we can turn this into a positive. We can share with others that Jesus is working on us; that we are currently under construction.

As we plan to share our faith with others, we must finally recognize that Jesus is the one who changes hearts. Like the Gospel of Mark says, we scatter the seed, but God is the one who makes it grow. God does the heavy lifting. We have an awesome opportunity to share his hope with our world.

#### **Discussion Questions**

#### **Getting Started**

- Read Romans 1:18-25 and 6:15-23. What stands out to you?
- Discuss a time when one of the following areas became too important to you: Career, relationship, safety, success, comfort, approval.

#### Study

- Respond: All of us worship something or someone.
- Respond: Christianity offers us the only identity that is received instead of achieved.
- Respond: If we are going to share our faith in Christ with others, we need to be close enough to them that, when their idols fail them, we are there to offer them hope.
- Respond: We are to share the reason for the hope we have in Christ with others. But God is the only one who can change hearts.

### Apply

• If your non-Christian friend ask you to summarize your faith in 2 minutes or less, what would you share?