



Going against the Grain: Not Your Ordinary Neighborhood Christian

WHY GO AGAINST THE GRAIN OF A TYPICAL “CHRISTIAN”?

1. BECAUSE IT IS _____

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. **Matthew 7: 13-14 (NIV)**

2. BECAUSE IT CAN _____

Don't think that I have come to destroy the law of Moses or the teaching of the prophets. I have not come to destroy their teachings but to do what they said. **Matthew 5:17 (ICB)**

3. BECAUSE IT CAN _____

- **It can create a movement _____.**

They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person's need was met. They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. **Acts 2: 42-46 (MSG)**

- **It can create a movement _____.**

Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved. Acts 2:47

3 WAYS TO GO AGAINST THE GRAIN IN YOUR LIFE

1. _____ WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF

*I can do all this through him who gives me strength. **Philippians 4:13 (NIV)***

*I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. **Psalm 16:8 (NIV)***

2. _____ YOURSELF FOR THE FIGHT

*But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. **2 Timothy 3:14-17***

3. _____ FOR SOMETHING GREATER THAN SELF

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. **John 15:12-13 (NIV)***

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. **Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)***

*Join us this **Saturday at 4PM for Spotlight** – an award-winning film about Boston Globe reporters working to uncover a cover-up of sexual abuse within the Catholic church. This movie is not appropriate for children – child care will be available. Get more info at **crossingscollinsville.com/reel-truth***