

Missing the Point

Description

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Luke 6:6-16

My oldest son should be a lawyer. He can find the most microscopic detail and make sure you know it's there. If you tell him to pick up his toys and "put them up," he may literally put them up somewhere high. After all, you did say "up."

The Pharisees had a similar outlook. They were not necessarily trying to be smart. They were, however, trying to follow the law of God as best they could. For them, that meant literally, making additional rules so they knew just how the commandments were to be followed. For instance, keep the Sabbath holy. How much work is too much work to keep the Sabbath?

Jesus disrupted their understanding of following God. Jesus pushed to think about what God really wants: for them to follow the letter of the law or a life to be saved (6:9). Jesus called the Pharisees to look beyond the literal words of the commandments to the heart of God. What does God desire? He desires our heart, mind, strength, and soul.

Heart was missing from the Pharisees' way of life. Is the heart missing from yours?

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