



## *The Real Thing*

February 3rd

### Discussion Questions

1. Read Romans 2:17-24. What is the main point Paul is trying to convey in these verses?
2. God chose to reveal himself to the Jewish people, giving them a covenant (promise) and a law to live by. How did this turn to something negative? (cf. Matthew 23:1-12)
3. How does Paul's audience distort the image of God?
4. How can this same argument and logic apply to the Christian?
5. What things in Christianity—similar to the Jewish possession of the law—can be used to separate us from others rather than demonstrate the love of God and his invitation to everyone?
6. How can we be convinced in our faith and still dishonor God? (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3)
7. What stood out most from John's message? Why did that resonate with you?

8. How has your picture of Jesus changed since you first began learning about Jesus and Christianity?
  
9. What has been most influential in developing your picture of Jesus?
  
10. The law was the source of determining or approving of what was right. What things does the Christian have to determine what is right? How do you determine “The Real Thing”? (cf. John 14:8-12; John 5:39-40)
  
11. It’s not enough to know the right thing, you have to have the right attitude. How might your attitude toward others obstruct a real picture of Jesus?
  
12. If you have chosen to follow Jesus, you have been given a gift of grace and truth, but also a responsibility. How can you more patiently and graciously show love to those that are not like you—whether morally, spiritually, racially, economically, or otherwise?

## Prayer

Take a moment and write your prayer, asking God that Paul’s warning in Romans 2:17-24 would take root in your life.

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