

Answering the Question of Why : Lesson #6

Why we have Rules

In this lesson we will answer the question of why we have rules. No matter how old a person is there will always be rules in their lives. And no matter how young or old a person is they will always have a problem with rules. It is in our fleshly nature to have a problem with the rules. In this lesson we will see why we have a problem with the rules and also why we need them in our lives and what are some of the benefits that they can bring us.

From the very beginning God set up order and rules. In the recreation of the earth we see a lot of division (**Genesis 1:4 ; 1:7 ; 1:14 ; 1:18**) Basically that is a rule does is to divide something for us. For a example a rule tells us what is right verses what is wrong therefore it divides for us what is right and wrong. Whether it is referring to the rules of the road or the rules of a particular game we are playing rules separate between right and wrong and they are very important.

In the beginning God gave Adam and Eve a rule in regards to the tree of knowledge of good and evil (**Genesis 2:16-17**). We know the how that turned out but that gives us some insight into why we have trouble with the rules. We inherited from Adam. It is in our nature to break the rules or have a hard time keeping them.

Sometimes you hear teenagers or even adults say that they wish there were no rules. Now in reality there is no such thing as no rules. For example let us think about what would happen if there were no rules. The answer is simple; there would be complete and utter chaos. But in reality that would never happen because if there were no rules somebody with a lot of power or money would simply step up and take charge and make his own rules that suit him. So in reality no matter what the situation someone will eventually take charge and establish some rules.

The Bible gives an example of this kind of a situation in **Judges 21:25**. The danger of this kind of a set up when there is no authority every man will do what is right in his own eyes. This leads to chaos and shows us why mankind wants no rules to start with is because he wants to be the final authority.

Benefits to Having Rules in our Lives :

1) Rules are a defense (**Proverbs 25:28**)

- According to this verse a person who has no rules over his own spirit is like a city that has no walls.
- Rules are for our protection many times. Whether it is the rules of the road, the rules at home, the rules at school, the rules at church, the rules in the word of God, they are trying to keep you out of danger.
- We think of rules as just being mean or trying to keep us from doing what we want to do. But remember that this is the lie that Satan got Eve to believe and it cost her her life in the end.

2) Obeying the rules brings us understanding (**Psalm 111:10**)

- According to this verse the one who does the commandment will have understanding.
- This is important because most people when complaining about the rules say, I just don't understand why I can't do this or that. Or they say I just don't understand what is wrong about that. The only way to understand the rule is to do the rule.
- Therefore whether we like it or not just obey the rule and one day you will have understanding.

3) Obeying the rules brings blessings (**Psalm 34:8**)

- This verse gives us insight on the above statement. Many times we don't understand why we should obey a rule but we do it any way and then we see a huge benefit for obeying the rule.
- This verse is saying taste and see that the Lord is good. You don't know whether something is good or bad until you have tried it. Therefore you can not say the rule is bad until you have tried it.
- So when you do not understand the rule just trust God and obey the rule and later you will be benefited from you obedience.

Your willingness to follow the rules will show a lot about your character in the word of Dr. Corle, "People who do not like standards and rules show their immaturity" [*The Chemistry of Separation*, Dr. Corle pg. 41]

Answering the Question of Why : Lesson # Handout

Why do we have Rules

What are some of the ways that God set up rules and order in the beginning?

What happens when there are no rules? Give a verse showing the danger of this.

List some ways in which rules are a defense for the person obeying them?

How does obeying the rules even though we do not understand them help us? Give references.

What are the benefits of obeying the rules?

What does it say about a persons character that dislikes or disobeys the rules?