



WEEK ONE

Introduction:

They *sound* Christian, these phrases we have often heard—and maybe even said—without giving them a second thought, but Jesus never said them. How have these phrases colored our own beliefs? How have they affected our impact on the world? That's what this series is all about.

Scripture:

Psalm 121:1-2 - *I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!*

James 1:27 - *Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.*



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Discussion Questions:

1. “God helps those who help themselves.” Is this something you believe or have believed?
2. How can this idea be a stumbling block for people trying to follow Jesus?
3. Although the idea that “God helps those who help themselves” is not correct, the pendulum could easily swing too far in the opposite direction (eg. “I don’t have to do anything, God will take care of me.”).
 - What is our responsibility when it comes to providing for ourselves?
 - What is our responsibility to provide for others?

Take the Next Step:

What help do you need from God right now?