



The Drift

“ _____ ”

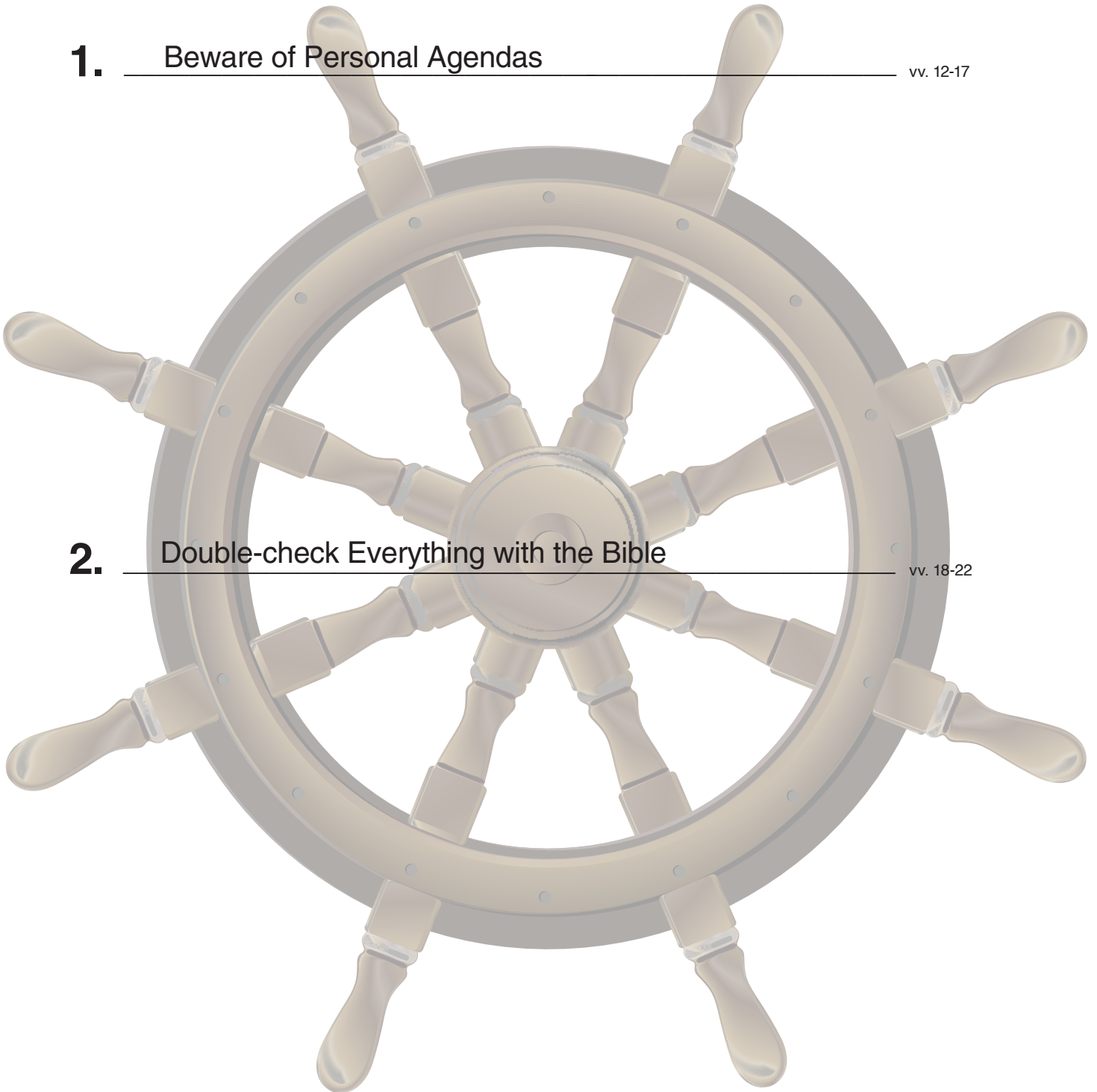
How to Prevent Bad Religion

1. _____ vv. 12-17

Beware of Personal Agendas

2. _____ vv. 18-22

Double-check Everything with the Bible



Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life.

PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- Read John 2:12-17. Explain why vendors were selling temple sacrifices during Passover. (i.e., convenience)
- How can this be a good thing? Why did Jesus have a problem with these practices? How does this relate to Point #2?
- How can this happen today? Give an example. How can Point #2 protect you from a spiritual drift? Be specific.

Point #2

- Read John 2:18-22. Why did the Jews (leaders) ask for a "sign"? What were they overlooking? (c.f. Malachi 3:2-3)
- How did Jesus respond? Why? In what way does this relate to Point #2 and bad religion? Be specific.
- Why will this be a temptation for OC Christians? How will Point #2 help? How is God speaking to you in this area?

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY // Read John 2:12-14, Deuteronomy 16:16-17, Ezekiel 45:21-25

- Explain God's requirements for every Jewish male when it comes to celebrating the Passover. (i.e., travel, sacrifices)
- How did Jesus and the disciples participate in these festivals? How does this explain the setting of John 2:12-14?
- Why would selling sacrifices not necessarily be a bad thing? What does this teach you about spiritual drifting?

TUESDAY // Read John 2:12-17, Luke 2:41-52, Psalm 69:9

- Given that Jesus attended the temple and participated in the festivals, what can be assumed about His perspective?
- Why did Jesus' perspective shift in John 2:15-16? What does this highlight about good versus bad religion?
- How can this personally happen to you? What is the solution? Pray and ask God to reveal any spiritual drift.

WEDNESDAY // Read John 2:12-17, Matthew 24:1-39, Psalm 139:23-24

- Given that Jesus is known for loving the sinner, what surprised you about His response in the temple?
- What does this highlight about righteous indignation? What was the primary issue Jesus confronted?
- How does this show up in Matthew 24:1-39? How does this speak to you? What steps of protection can you take?

THURSDAY // Read John 2:12-18, Malachi 3:2-3, Psalm 119:105, Proverbs 28:26

- Why did the "Jews" (i.e., religious leaders) ask Jesus for a sign? Why would this have been appropriate?
- How were they overlooking the actual "sign"? (Malachi 3:2-3) What does this highlight about guiding principles?
- How can this easily happen to Christians and churches in today's affluent world? How is God speaking to you?

FRIDAY // Read John 2:18-22, Matthew 12:38-41

- In what way did Jesus avoid the Jews' request for a "sign"? Why? How could it have been a trap?
- Why is the resurrection the ultimate "sign"? How did Jesus' response about the temple help the disciples?
- Given this all took place in the temple, what does it imply about good versus bad religion? Be specific.

SATURDAY // Read John 2:12-22, Matthew 21:12-17, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48

- Compare and contrast the four different accounts of Jesus cleansing the temple. What is similar and different?
- What does this highlight about each author's purpose for describing this event? What was John's purpose?
- How does this also help explain why John places this event early in his Gospel? Be specific.

MEDITATION VERSE: *¹³He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den or robbers."*

Matthew 21:13