



# FAITH FULL

FUELING YOUR FAITH IN A WORLD ON EMPTY

*Therefore,  
since we are surrounded by  
such a great (huge) cloud of witnesses,  
let us throw off **everything** that **hinders**  
(let go of every wound that has pierced us)  
and the sin that so easily entangles.*

Hebrews 12:1 NIV



# EVERYTHING THAT **HINDERS**

- ✓ Unhindered by **Anxiety**
- Unchained from **Religion**
- Unleashed from **Lies**
- Untangled from **Unbelief**





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**MESSAGE 5: UNCHAINED FROM RELIGION**

# INSTITUTIONALIZATION



*I am telling you, these **walls** are funny.  
First you **hate** them; then you get **used to** them.  
Enough time passes and you get so you **depend on** 'em.  
It doesn't mean you **like** 'em.  
It doesn't even mean you **want** 'em.  
But you get **used to** 'em,  
and then enough **time** passes  
and you **depend on** 'em.*

The Shawshank Redemption: Morgan Freeman



# THE **WEIGHT** OF RELIGION



Then Jesus said to the **crowds** and to his **disciples**,  
“The **teachers** of religious law and the **Pharisees**  
are the official **interpreters** of the **law** of Moses.  
So **practice** and **obey** whatever they tell you,  
but don't **follow** their example (**do** as they **do**).  
For they don't **practice** (do) what they **teach** (say).  
They **crush** people (tie on their backs)  
with **unbearable** religious demands (**heavy loads**)  
and never lift a **finger** to ease the **burden**. ...”

Matthew 23:1-4 NLT





**JESUS IS BETTER**



# #4 HONOR THE SABBATH



*“Their **lives** are perpetual **fashion shows**  
(**live** to be **noticed** by others),  
embroidered **prayer shawls** one day  
and **flowery prayers** the next.*

*They love to **sit** at the **head table** at church dinners,  
basking in the most **prominent** (power) **positions**,  
preening in the radiance of **public flattery** (**praise**),  
**receiving** honorary degrees (**honor**),  
and getting called ‘**Doctor**’ and ‘**Reverend**’ (Rabbi).”*

Matthew 23:5-7 MSG



# THE **WEIGHT** OF RELIGION

- *You grow **frustrated**.*
- *You feel **exhausted**.*
- *You **fake it** until you **can't** anymore.*
- *You end up **conceited**.*
- *You end up **defeated** (... **quitting**).*



*“Are you **tired** (weary)?  
Worn out (burdened)? **Burned out** on religion?  
Come to me (Jesus).  
Get away with me and you’ll **recover** your **life**.  
I’ll **show you** (teach you) how to take a **real rest**.  
Walk with me and **work** with me – **watch** how I do it.  
Learn the unforced **rhythms** of **grace**.  
I won’t lay anything **heavy** or **ill-fitting** on you.  
Keep company with me and you’ll **learn to live**  
**freely** and **lightly**.”*

Matthew 11:28-29 MSG



**FEAR OF WHAT OTHERS THINK (FOWAT)**



# SYMPTOMS YOU HAVE FOWOT

- *You go along ... but secretly resent it.*
- *You change your opinion based on others.*
- *You are afraid of how others see you.*
- *You read into what other people say or do.*
- *You struggle to say no or ask for help.*
- *You are critical of others.*



*God doesn't **love** you **more** ...*





*... I tried keeping **rules**  
and **working** my head off to **please** God,  
and it didn't work.*

*So I quit being a "**law man**" so that I could be **God's** man.  
**Christ's** (Jesus') **life** showed me **how**, and **enabled** me to do it.*

*I **identified** myself completely **with him**.  
Indeed, I have been **crucified** with Christ.*

*My **ego** is no longer **central**.*

*It is no longer important that I **appear righteous** before you  
or have your **good opinion**, and I am no longer **driven** to **impress** God.*

*Christ **lives** in me. The **life** you see me living is **not** "**mine**,"*

*But it is lived **by faith** in the Son of God,*

*Who **loved** me and **gave** himself for me. ...*

Galatians 2:19-20 MSG



# **DISCOVERY** BIBLE STUDY

*How to build an enduring, go the distance faith ...*

## **THE BOOK OF HEBREWS**

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**Read** Hebrews 5: 1-14 (3-6 Translations)

**DBS:** Hebrews 5:4-14  
(**Three-Column Study**)

