

American Faith: So Many Changes

"Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 1:13 (English Standard Version)

Is it OK to _____ the way we go about our _____?

Changes Are Obvious Among American Churches

A. Some changes are matters of taste and opinion:

1. The _____ we _____ have changed significantly over the last 30 years.
2. The use of _____ in worship is very different.
3. _____ and _____ were once the norm, but not now. Dress is much more _____.
4. Bible _____. It's no longer just the _____ James _____.

B. Other changes alter the essence of the faith:

1. _____ in worship (even among churches of _____!).
2. _____ roles: _____% of mainline Protestant churches are now led by _____.
3. Views about _____: _____% of American Christians now view this as acceptable.

How Christians Should View Changes Of Essence

A. God's revealed will should be taken seriously:

1. Exodus 25:8,9 - Moses was to follow God's _____ for the tabernacle _____ as it was shown to him.
2. Numbers 8:4b - He made the _____ according to the _____ the _____ showed him.
3. Malachi 3:6 - _____ does not _____.
4. 2 Timothy 1:13 - Timothy was to _____ the _____ of the sound _____ he heard from Paul.

B. Worship to God should be offered in the way He prescribes:

1. Isaiah 58:3,5 - Was this really a _____? Was it _____ to God?
2. Isaiah 55:8,9 - God's _____ are not the same as _____.
3. John 4:23,24 - God seeks _____ worshipers.
4. Matthew 15:7-9 - _____-made worship is _____.

C. 2 Timothy 4:1-4 - If we don't follow the _____, we will _____ off into _____.

_____ may change, but let us be sure the _____ doesn't.

Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, July 23, 2017, a.m.