

# Sermon Notes – February 24, 2019

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**Sermon Title:**  Making Positive From Negative

**1. Negative: Being a Christian is NOT Based on** \_\_\_\_\_

a. The Lord's definition of \_\_\_\_\_ is not the same as the common human perception of the word.

b. Positive: How does one determine what's right and wrong? It requires that we:

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We don't do these things if we just rely on our emotions for making decisions.

Scripture References:

John 11:35; 1 Samuel 1:10; Isaiah 1:18; Acts 17:11; Heb 11:1, 23-26; Luke 15:11-32

**2. Negative: Being a Christian is NOT Being** \_\_\_\_\_

a. Positive: Being just a Christian, means striving to be \_\_\_\_\_ to those that the NT gives us as examples of faithful Christians.

Scripture References:

Matt 16:18, 25:31-46; Acts 1:8, 2:47, 5:29; Col 1:18; 1 Pet 5:2; Ephesians 4:4,5

**3. Negative: Being a Christian is NOT** \_\_\_\_\_

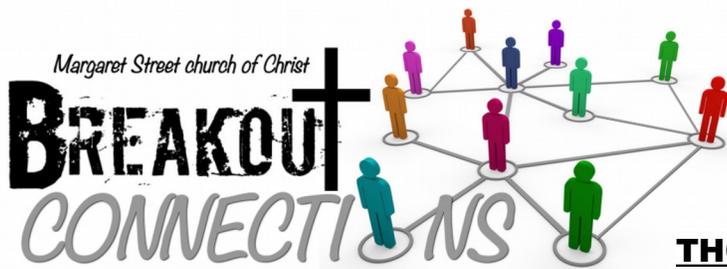
a. Positive: If God exists, THEN there is only:

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b. Choosing where to place spiritual trust is not \_\_\_\_\_

Scripture References:

Matt 7:13,14; 14:6; Acts 4:10-12



*Breaking out into small groups,  
Making connections,  
Building relationships.*

**THOUGHT / DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

*Answer as many questions as you can during your group breakout session. Answer the remaining questions in your private time and ponder your responses during this week.*

1. What are your thoughts? Did anything from today's lesson stand out, impact you, or challenge you?
2. Do we sometimes allow our emotions to over-ride our rational thinking when making decisions? Can this create a problem for us?
3. What is "truth"? Is it an ideal or a reality? Emotional or tangible?
4. Is it possible to actually find and know absolute "truth"? If so, how can one be so confident that they have the one and only truth?
5. What constitutes true Christian happiness? Is it comparable, or compatible with worldly "happiness"?
6. Is obedience based on emotions, or on reasoning, or both?
7. Being a Christian can be quite challenging at times. What are we to do when worldly desires encroach upon us and temptation threatens us? What are we to do when our own brethren mistreat us? What is our best defense in all cases – to ensure that we make it to heaven?