

the IRRELIGIOUS LIFE

experiencing the inside-out spirituality of Jesus

Week 1: *WINE & WINESKINS*

Someday, after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tide and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love. Then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire.

~ Teilhard De Chardin

Perhaps a revolution is under way, a revolution of the Spirit that is about to shift our core energies *away from* arranging life to make it as satisfying as possible *to* drawing near to God. Jesus seekers across the world are being prepared to abandon the old way of the written code for the new way of the Spirit.

~ Larry Crabb

The deepest ach of the soul is the spiritual longing for connection and belonging. To be human is to have been designed for intimate relationship with the Divine. In spite of the messages of Western culture, personal fulfillment lies in connection, not autonomy. Spirituality is the discovery of the fundamental connection that exists between us and God – a connection that properly aligns us to others, the world and our deepest self.

~ David G. Benner

The communities of God, to which Christ has become teacher and guide, are... like heavenly lights in the world.

~ Origen

The church is perhaps one of the few places left where we can meet people who are different than we are but with whom we can form a larger family.

~ Henri Nouwen

Jesus Christ, by putting us in his body, determined that we would need each other as much as we need him.

~ Richard Halverson

The Church is not a religious community of worshippers of Christ but is *Christ Himself* who has taken form among men.

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Church is the place where people ought to breathe most freely and most together. Church is the place where people ought to feel most free to be themselves and most accountable to one another.

~ Leonard Sweet

Churches, not bars, should have the reputation as being the one place where people can be totally open and honest with others without fear of judgment.

~ Gregory A. Boyd

Cheers.

~ Bruxy Cavey

Religion as an institution, the Temple as an ultimate end, or, in other words, religion for religion's sake, is idolatry.

~ Abraham Joshua Heschel

I am the way.

~ Jesus