

Forward 5: On The Fringe
Younger Generation Church • May 15, 2010

Isaiah 43:19 [TNIV]

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

*Have you ever heard, “But this is the way we’ve **always** done it.” In the first century, Jesus Christ got a lot of that. The religion of His day had it down pat, they knew the regulations and rituals. They had long established the right crowd to hang with and all the customary ways to judge who is “in” and who’s “out.”*

Just when we thought we had everything figured out, procedures and policies in place, Jesus dares us to join Him on the fringe.

Talk Like We Talk

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,
⁷“Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”
- Mark 2:6-7 [TNIV]

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- John 1:1 [TNIV]

Jesus speaks from the fringe. He is abnormal.

[1. not normal; deviating from the usual or typical; extraordinary
2. *Informal* odd in behaviour or appearance; strange]

In a world full of cheap talk, Jesus brings something new, He brings the Word of Life.

Click with Our Clique

¹⁶When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”
- Mark 2:16 [TNIV]

⁸Then he said to his servants, “The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.” ¹⁰So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

-- Matthew 22:8-10 [TNIV]

Jesus hangs out on the fringe.

[a group with marginal views, peripheral, on the edge]

In an exclusive red carpet world, Jesus brings something new, He brings the Bread of Life.

Do Like We Do

¹⁸ Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

- Mark 2:18 [TNIV]

²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

- Mark 2:24 [TNIV]

Jesus acts from the fringe. He was paranormal.

[Beyond the range of normal experience or scientific explanation.]

In a world of conforming imitators, Jesus brings something new, He brings the Alpha and the Omega.

Why be normal?

Are we an 8-track in an iPod world?

Jesus is calling us to the fringe, revealing a new kingdom, in new ways—asking us to go to the cutting edge.

Part of Arlington’s Forward Five Thinking is Internet Media Ministry. Whether you are in your living room, your barracks, or your dormitory, whether you are in Korea or Kentucky, Pittsburg or Paris, you are part of us. Because we don’t go to church, we are the church. And YG Church is joining Jesus on the fringe.