

**Five Reasons People Like Jesus But Not Christians
Who Needs More Rules?
“When Christians Are Legalistic”
Matthew 23:13-15 (page 687)**

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Christians become a b a r r i e r to Jesus when...

- We fail to recognize w h o Jesus is (v 13)
 - By our n e g l e c t (*Apathy*)
 - By our poor e x a m p l e (*Disobedience*)
- We are more interested in being r e l i g i o u s than we are about following J e s u s (v 15)
 - Because of misplaced z e a l (*Ignorance*)
 - Because of a focus on r u l e s rather than r e l a t i o n s h i p (*Conformity*)

To think about....

Am I opening the door of God's Kingdom to others or am I shutting it?

Am I a barrier to others by :

my inconsistent lifestyle?

my negative attitude toward certain people or groups?

my comfort with conformity to rules over the challenges of relationship?

What is one step I can take this week to make a change in one of these areas?