



CHRISTIAN
CLICHÉS

EXAMPLES

- ▶ “All you need to do is Just trust God”
- ▶ “Just lay it at the foot of the cross”
- ▶ “Make sure this is what God has for you. Is this in God’s will?”
- ▶ “In this situation, you just need to let go and let God”

- ▶ At best, they're overused, unexplained Biblical truths
- ▶ At worst, they're distracting and potentially damaging clichés used to put a Band-Aid on a bullet wound

- ▶ Most of these involve the word “just”
 - ▶ Implies a singular, simple, easy solution to the problem of the person



~~JUST~~

LOST, BROKEN, AND HURT PEOPLE
DO NOT NEED CLICHÉS.
THEY NEED THE GOSPEL IN THE
FORM OF PRESENT APPLICATION.

I. “JUST TRUST GOD”


- ▶ What does trusting God look like?
- ▶ Riding a horse



I. JUST TRUST GOD

- ▶ Each person has a different struggle and a different situation that requires trusting
- ▶ Blanket statements minimize the specific circumstances on the person

II. “YOU NEED TO LAY IT AT THE CROSS”

- ▶ Related to previous, yet with an additional emotional factor
 - ▶ This is told when someone is struggling with a persistent sin, usually anxiety
 - ▶ Seems to imply that your current faith is not strong enough
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II. “YOU NEED TO LAY IT AT THE CROSS

- ▶ Brings the image of taking it off your shoulders and getting rid of the weight you’re carrying
- ▶ However, are we ever told that we are going to be burdenless?
- ▶ Matthew 11:28-30 says we will find rest with Christ
- ▶ Does not say we will be without a burden

II. “YOU NEED TO LAY IT AT THE CROSS

- ▶ According to Matthew 11:28-30, our burden will still exist
- ▶ However, it will be light and easy



III. “JUST FOLLOW GOD’S WILL”

- ▶ What is God’s will?
 - ▶ Is it hidden, strange, mysterious, and hard to find?



III. “JUST FOLLOW GOD’S WILL”

- ▶ Matthew 6:25-34
- ▶ In summary: Do not be anxious about tomorrow, but seek first the kingdom of God

III. “JUST FOLLOW GOD’S WILL”

- ▶ “Make sure you’re in the center of God’s will”
- ▶ Implies you can act outside of God’s will
 - ▶ Does this diminish God’s power and ultimate control over mankind?
 - ▶ If we can act outside of what God has for us, then who is ultimately in control?

IV. “LET GO AND LET GOD”

- ▶ Similar to “Give it to God” or “He’ll open a door”
- ▶ Opposite side, rather than over scrutinizing every choice this approach sits back and remains passive

IV. “LET GO AND LET GOD”

- ▶ What is our role in God’s will?
- ▶ We are not to sit back and be inactive in all we do
- ▶ In Acts, Paul’s traveling from place to place were by his choice

IV. “LET GO AND LET GOD”

- ▶ If you can spread the Gospel and be used by God in athletics, law enforcement, psychology, writing, or teaching, is there a singular, “right” choice of those?
- ▶ Risk taking!



V. “YOU SHOULDN’T BE ANGRY AT GOD”

- ▶ Typically told it’s never OK to be angry at God
- ▶ Is it ever appropriate? Or always sinful? Maybe both?

V. “YOU SHOULDN’T BE ANGRY AT GOD”

- ▶ You will be angry at God
- ▶ A sinful, broken world leads to pain and hurt in your life
- ▶ What do you do with the anger?


V. “YOU SHOULDN’T BE ANGRY AT GOD”

- What does praying to God about your anger look like in contrast to becoming bitter?



V. “YOU SHOULDN’T BE ANGRY AT GOD”

- ▶ Lamentations 3
- ▶ Jeremiah is angry at God for the first part, then eventually turns back to Him and remembers His faithfulness
- ▶ Why is this in the Bible?

- ▶ The intent and meaning behind people saying these can be good, but what do these phrases really mean?
 - ▶ Most people need an application of these truths.
 - ▶ Can you tell them the next practical step?
 - ▶ Lost people need a path, hurt people need a remedy, and overwhelmed people need relief
 - ▶ How can you help them more than putting a cliché band-aid over a tremendous wound?
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- ▶ Kevin DeYoung, “Just Do Something”, 2009

