

## “Reinventing the Wheel... and Making It Square”

By Jason Vanderlaan

Have you ever noticed how we always seem to think we can do things better than God? Of course, we wouldn't say it that way, but our actions definitely show it. How is it that we think we can improve or change God's design? It's crazy!

For example, God designed our hearts to be given to one person and one person only. How is it that we think we are free to date around, giving and taking our hearts at will, and still be following God's will?

And how is it that God designed the church to function as a family and yet we think we can do better by making it a business or a social club? We take a beautifully relational model given in the New Testament and try to twist and turn it to fit into our cultural mindset.

How is it that Jesus can make the gospel as simple as repenting and having faith in the grace of God and we turn it into the 7 Steps Plan to Redemption? How is it that God wants to have a relationship with us, but we treat Him like a genie or a slot machine or, worse yet, a televangelist – just send in your money and all your problems will be fixed.

How is it that the Bible defines Christian spirituality as a way of life and we think we can make it into a list of religious policies? How is it that God can tell us to give to the poor and take care of the needy and yet we still spend our time and money customizing and adorning our own way of life?

How is it that we think our sense of fashion trumps God's design for clothing? After the Fall, God gave Adam and Eve clothing to wear. The Hebrew word used to describe this garment indicates a piece of clothing that covered everything from below the neck to the knee. How is it that now, with six thousand more years of sin's corruption on our flesh and blood, we think we can get away with wearing less?

We constantly reinvent the wheel, making it a square, and then wonder why we aren't getting anywhere. The solution is simple: God's ways are higher and better than ours, if only we'd learn to follow Him.

Trust me, I've tried square wheels more times than I'd like to admit. They don't work. You don't go anywhere. And you end up looking pretty silly, too. How about trying God's wheels for a change? You'll be amazed at the difference.

