



Road Trip: Fuel | July 4, 2018

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Fuel is what makes things go. Whether it's our vehicles, bodies or minds.

Key Verses

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

"A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

Discussion

If you've ever put the wrong type of gas in something, like a car or jet ski, you know that it can be a pretty big deal. Certain engines are made to run on certain types of fuel, and with incorrect types of gas, you can do some serious damage. So much so, that you might be tempted to siphon all the gas out of your tank to avoid destroying the vehicle. If you're bold enough to try this with just a tube and your mouth, you'll probably end up with a pretty horrible mouth full of gas.

1. Have you ever put the wrong type of fuel in something (a car, boat, etc.)? What happened?
2. Have you ever tried to siphon gas? Or made a mistake you've tried to fix but instead made the situation worse?

A lot of times in our faith journey, we put the wrong fuel in our bodies – either knowingly or unknowingly. As our creator, God knows how we function best. And any time we read the Bible, we get the chance to hear what God wants from our life. Instead of thinking about it as a rulebook that we have to follow, we should think about it more like an instruction manual written by an expert who knows exactly what we need to operate correctly. He knows that if we put the wrong fuel in our bodies, our faith will eventually break down. Or, if we try to siphon the wrong stuff out, it might taste horrible for a really long time.

3. Do you think of the Bible as a rulebook? Why or why not?
4. What are some examples of "good fuel" in your faith journey? What are some examples of times you've either used the wrong fuel or tried to run on empty?

In Luke 6:45, we read about how what we "input" into our bodies affects what comes out. The Bible says that what comes out of our mouth actually flows from what is in our heart. If we have bad fuel (or no fuel at all), our faith breaks down. If we have good fuel, it motivates us in our faith journey to operate correctly. In order to experience the best "performance" in our faith journey, we have to be connected to the right fuel source, the God who knows exactly how we're meant to operate.

5. Why do you think what we say flows from our heart? Can you point to a time where you said something positive or negative that was a result of the condition of your heart?
6. Do you trust God as the expert in knowing how you function best? Why or why not?

What's Next?

This week, consider what you are using to fuel your life. Are you connected to God? What is coming out of you – good or evil? Are you running on fumes or with the wrong fuel, about to break down completely? Identify one change you'd like to make in your life to either eliminate bad fuel or run on more/higher quality fuel.

Once we know, personally, that we are running on the right fuel, the good news is that'll start to spill out and affect those around us, as well as the rest of the world.