EPISODE: 167
TITLE: How Consumerism is Killing the Church

When we approach our Christian faith, experience, and responsibilities as consumers rather than seeing it as an all-encompassing way of life, a lifestyle… and a fully interpretive set of beliefs and values, then our church and Christianity becomes just one more brand or product we consume.

Here are three key things to believe and consider about consumerism and your faith…

1. **You were created needy, and you need Jesus, not his stuff**. God desires to be the fulfilment and focus of your needs and desires. Trust God and his timing and *"lean not on your own understanding"* and ability to grab cheap imitations. [Proverbs 3:5] He has proven his love and willingness to come to you by sending Jesus to provide the life he has always wanted for you.

2. **The true Gospel pushes back consumerism in your life**. You no longer need to chase after false imitations or things that will not satisfy in the long run. And you have nothing to prove or earn! In Christ, you have something of great value, something true and precious that was already bought for you through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Chase that truth! Grab ahold of that good news and drink deeply. Let the Holy Spirit move you from unbelief to belief concerning your true needs.

3. **Trust God for your church and where he has placed you**. Don't treat your church like a vending machine—primarily dropping in a few coins to get goods and services out. Ask God to show you why you are a part of this community and how he wants to show his love and provision to others through you.

God, in Christ and by his example, has called us to the exact opposite of consumerism, he's called us, like Jesus, to sacrificial love. It is when we lose our consumeristic life, we truly gain it. (Luke 17)

In light of today's topics, you might find these posts and videos helpful:

- **These 3 Things Are True Discipleship Killers**
- **Be The Church**

Thanks for listening… we'll see you in the next episode!
Caesar & Heath