

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

April 16, 2023

COLLISION PODCAST

Messy Spirituality #05
Pastor Matt Manning
Pastor James Johnson
Matt.Manning@crossroadsabc.com
James.Johnson@crossroadsabc.com



NOTES

In the podcast, Matt & James touched on the tension many believers feel when they have to confront the authority of God in their lives—especially when it comes to the process of sanctification.

How we respond to God’s authority is shaped by the ways we respond to those (sometimes-flawed) humans who are in authority over us.

Where do you land on the “Acceptance of Authority” spectrum?

On the low end ...

1 = Tell me who’s in charge so I fully understand whose decisions I need to implement without question.

On the high end ...

10 = Since power always corrupts, I look at all people in authority with a sense of distrust, even disdain.

Explain how your landing place on this spectrum expresses itself in real life.

James used the metaphor of a baseball umpire who is calling “balls & strikes” in regard to our moral decisions—which can cause some tension in our spirits when we don’t like a ruling that we’ve done such great job justifying.

In what sense does the Holy Spirit take on the role of an umpire in my life?

What’s your initial reaction when you disagree with one of His calls?

How does this reaction reveal something that needs your attention?

Matt and James make a strong distinction between justification and sanctification – and touch on the ways one impacts the other. Justification is a one-time event, and sanctification is a sometimes slow, sometimes painful ongoing process.

Justification happens in a moment of time; sanctification happens over a series of moments.

How does my understanding of what happened to me at the moment of my conversion (justification) impact the ways I will grow in my faith (sanctification)

Looking back at your notes from this week’s message, was there anything you heard for the first time, stuck with you, challenged or confused you?

What is the one important thing you will take away from this weekend’s message or our community group discussion? Is there any challenge, difficulty or praise that you would like to share with the group for prayer?



Watch On Demand
[crossroadsabc.com/
messages](https://crossroadsabc.com/messages)

What are some tangible ways that I can see the power of sin losing its strength and hold on my spirit?