

Mark Steele: Getting Back to Jesus

Mark Steele, an author and the president of movie company  Steelehouse Productions, discusses lessons gleaned from his own Christian journey in *Christianish: What If We're Not Really Following Jesus At All?* (David C. Cook).

With a background that includes stand-up comedy rather than theology, the author uses humor to illustrate his topics, such as Christians who pretend their lives are perfect, which he's quick to address in the first chapter.

"When we are public about the 'rough stuff,' we communicate that God is able to deliver us through the 'rough stuff, " he says. Other chapters look at materialism, lack of patience, transformation and when God says "no."

Although the book includes many points that will challenge readers, Steele insists he's not a cynic concerning the church but that he is, first and foremost, addressing his own problems. "I think it's easy to look at a title like *Christianish* and wonder if I'm taking a jab at the church, but it's actually an attack on my own life," he says. "I started questioning how many of my decisions and actions and words actually line up with the way He wants me to live."

Steele adds: "I'm not a skeptic of the church. I'm involved. But I also see the times that we're in. We have to continually reassess our own lives through the light of Christ and Christ only."

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