

Being Heard in a Secular World



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Author and Broadcaster

BBC NEWS 16:22 RAMPAGE DOWN A CYCLE LANE IN LOWER MANHATTAN



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We will be missional

It's not about us, it's about them

- start with culture
- move to scripture
- avoid being preachy

It's not just about them

...it's about Him

- syncretism a temptation
- pursue biblical integrity



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Q: How do you track a secular audience's interests, hopes, fears and longings?



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We will be credible

Through excellence

constant improvement

growing in craft

Through expertise

authoritative sources

getting facts right

Through fairness

deal with critics

acknowledge the other side



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We will be holistic

The whole Gospel, not pet topics

personal and societal

creation, fall, redemption



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***Q: What light does the Gospel bring
to today's headlines?***



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Q: What light does the Gospel bring to today's headlines?

Mindfulness is thought to have multiple benefits – but it can also make you less likely to feel guilty about wrongdoing and derail your moral compass.

The immediate outcomes of this popular form of meditation are meant to be reduced stress and risk of burnout. But listed alongside these benefits, you'll often find claims that mindfulness can improve your personality. When you learn to live in the moment, the proponents say, you will find hidden reserves of empathy and compassion for those around you. That's certainly an attractive bonus for an organisation hoping to increase co-operation in its teams.

The scientific research, however, paints **a more complicated picture of mindfulness's effects on our behaviour**, with emerging evidence that it can sometimes *increase* people's selfish tendencies. According to a new paper, mindfulness may be especially harmful when we have wronged other people. By quelling our feelings of guilt, it seems, the common meditation technique discourages us from making amends for our mistakes.

“Cultivating mindfulness can distract people from their own transgressions and interpersonal obligations, occasionally relaxing one's moral compass,” says Andrew Hafenbrack, assistant professor of management and organisation at the University of Washington, US, who led the new study.

We will be hospitable

A posture of civility

→ *'gentleness and respect'*

A posture of listening

→ *creating space*

A posture of invitation

→ *being mindful of 'land grabs'*



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Being Heard in a Secular World

We will be missional

We will be credible

We will be holistic

We will be hospitable

Write a Pause for Thought

Duration 2'30" (350 words)

Focus on one idea

Use story, anecdote, metaphor

Write conversationally

Start well and end strong



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