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Believing Unbelievers

John 2:23-25
February 5, 2017

I. Not all faith is saving faith (v. 23)

A. Some faith is based on _____
(Jn. 4:48; 6:14-15; Mk. 8:11-13)

B. Some faith is based on _____
(Jn. 6:24-27)

C. Some faith is based on _____
(Jms. 2:17-20)

D. Some faith is based on an outward _____
(Lk. 6:46-49)

E. Some faith is based on external _____ but lacks fruit
(Matt. 13:1-8, 18-23)

II. Not all followers are faithful followers (vv. 24-25)

A. Some followers fall away

1. Some claim the Father but reject the _____
(Jn. 5:42-44)

2. Some claim to follow but reject the _____ of eternal life
(Jn. 6:60-66)

3. Some claim the right to accuse _____
(Matt. 9:1-7)

B. Some followers stay faithful

1. Jesus knows His faithful _____ - Simon, Nathaniel, Nicodemus
(Jn. 1:42, 47-48; 3:9-15)

2. Jesus knows that His faithful followers will _____ with Him
(Jn. 6:67-71)

3. Jesus knows that His faithful followers will _____
(Jn. 16:29-33)

TAKE HOME

- What is your _____ really based on?
- How can you keep from being a believing _____?
- What does Jesus see when He looks within your _____?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 2:23. What is wrong with basing your faith on signs? Read Jn. 4:48; 6:14-15; Mk. 8:11-13. How do these passages help you think through your answer?

2. Read James 2:17-20. How is this example relative to this message? If demons believe but are not believers is that also possible of some people? Why or why not?

3. Read Matt. 13:1-8 and 13:18-23. How does the parable of the soils also give us insight into our topic?

4. Read John 2:24-25. Now read Jn. 5:42-44. Are all followers faithful followers? Read Jn. 6:60-66. What do we learn from this passage?

5. Read Jn. 1:42, 47-48; 3:9-15. What do we learn about what Christ knows about His followers in these passages?

6. Read Jn. 6:67-71 and Jn. 16:29-33. What do we learn from these passages that Jesus knows from his followers? What do you believe Jesus knows about you?

7. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why?

*“Signs are done in order to strengthen true, saving faith.
Of themselves they do not create faith. The Holy Spirit must do this.
Moreover, once saving faith is present, one will believe in the word of Jesus
even when there is no sign.”*

- William Hendriksen, *New Testament Commentary on John*