

Sermon Overview CEFC

February 11, 2024

Title: Believe Him or Not

Passage: John 12:37-50

Introduction

Series Purpose: What we _____ about _____ is still a matter of _____ and _____.

Question: How can we be certain that we have made the _____ about _____ in Jesus?

Main Point: If we want to make the right _____ about Jesus, we must engage in right _____.

Examining our Believing Reasoning

Our choice not to believe in Jesus is the result of _____.

Our choice to believe in Jesus in the result of _____.

Conclusion

Sermon Based Small Group Questions

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Passage: John 12:37-50

Main Point: If we want to make the right choice about Jesus, we must engage in right reasoning.

- 1 Read John 12:37 – 12:50 as a group. What stands out to you? What questions does it raise? How does it challenge you?
- 2 Think back on when you decided to believe in Jesus. What were the reasons you chose to believe? Were they good reasons? Why or why not?
- 3 John began his reflection about why folks don't believe in Jesus by quoting Isaiah 53:1. Take a look at Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12. What do you think people would have found most difficult to believe about what Isaiah predicted about Jesus? Why would it make better sense to them not to believe?
- 4 John quoted Isaiah 6:10 as the reason folks don't believe. How does reading Isaiah 6:11-13 help us understand more fully God's part in people not believing. What is God's ultimate goal? How does this explain why not believing sometimes feels more right to us than believing does?
- 5 The religious leaders who did believe in Jesus were afraid to go public with their faith. They cared more what people thought than what God thought? How are we sometimes like them?
- 6 Jesus claimed to be God Himself, that His words were the exact words the Father gave Him to say, to be the Light that reveals who we really are, and to be grace and truth. Which of these claims is most meaningful to you and why? Why should we believe Him?
- 7 Belief is not merely intellectual or emotional. Belief is a reorientation of our minds, our spirits, our hearts and our hearts to a new reality. Belief is to see ourselves, others, and the world as God does. Belief is to live as if God's reality is the only reality. Interact with this definition.