

SERMON OUTLINE John 8:31-36

Obedience, Truth, and Freedom Mark Genuine Belief

INTRODUCTION

ABIDE IN JESUS' WORD (31)

KNOW THE TRUTH (32A)

BE SET FREE (32B)

ABIDING IN TRUTH AND FREEDOM OR LIES AND SLAVERY? (33-36)

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

In our passage for this morning, Jesus further clarified the nature of true belief. His clarification comes in the form of a three-part lesson. First, genuine belief abides in Jesus' word. Second, to know Jesus' word is to know the truth. And third, knowing and abiding in truth is the only path to true freedom. The main takeaway for us is to give ourselves to Jesus' word that we might be transformed by it in every aspect of our being.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Can you think of a time you were confronted by a teaching of Jesus that differed from your understanding? What did you do?
3. In the sermon Pastor Dave said, "Unbelieving belief, at its core, sees oneself—not Jesus—as the ultimate judge of truth." Have you ever seen this play out in someone's life?
4. How would you explain the difference between unbelieving belief and genuine belief to a ten-year-old?
5. Have you ever had to stand alone for an important issue? What was it like? What did you do?
6. What does it mean to abide in Jesus' word? Do you? Have you seen someone who does? What does it look like?
7. How do you define "truth"? Where do you find truth? Why should we care about truth?
8. What do you think of the definition of freedom Pastor Dave gave? "True freedom is the God-given ability to rightly choose that which is best." Does that sound like real freedom? Does it sound like the kind of freedom you'd want?
9. What does it look like to be a slave to sin according to Jesus (v.34)? How have you seen that play out in your life?
10. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

11. Ask one godly person who knows you well how you might better honor Jesus.
12. Try to come up with a creative way to teach kids what it means to abide in Jesus' word.
13. Study more closely one of Jesus' teachings this week. Ask God to help you abide in it. Share what you find at DG.
14. Commit to a Bible reading plan that will help you read the entire Bible and ask someone to join you.
15. Pray for and share the good news of Jesus with one non-Christian this week that they might not die in their sin..
16. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
17. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

PRAYER POINTS

18. Adoration. Praise God for being true. Praise God for being free. Praise God for being life. Praise God that He is perfect.
19. Confess. Confess any ways you are failing to abide in Jesus' word. Confess any lies you're holding onto. Confess any ways sin you are practicing. Confess any ways you've caved into temptation rather than hold fast to Jesus.
20. Thanksgiving. Thank God for setting you free in Jesus. Thank God for revealing truth in Jesus. Thank God for saving you in Jesus. Thank God for His countless blessings in your life. Thank God for loving you.
21. Supplication. Ask God to help our church to help one another abide in Jesus. Ask God to help us stop practicing sin (ask Him to deliver someone you know to be stuck in a specific sin). Ask God to comfort someone who is in pain. Ask God to strengthen our missionaries to stand firm against persecution.