

Sermon Audio Input

Full Msg. Title: Cultivating God Honoring Faith
Short Ver. Title: John 025
Series Title: The Gospel of John
Text: John 4:43-54
Key Words: Signs and Wonders, Believe

Message Outline

Cultivating God Honoring Faith

- I. Not All Believing Honors God
- II. The Believing of the Galileans
- III. The Believing of the Royal Official
- IV. How We Can Cultivate God Honoring Faith

Please See

Pastor Kit Culver's sermon and study notes for his John 025 message, "Jesus' Second Galilean Sign - Healing the Royal Official's Son" from 2/7/16.

Examine the Scriptures (Be Berean!)

- John 4:43-54
- John 2 - 4

Consider & Discuss (Be Transformed!)

- John 2:23-25 speaks to one of the themes of John's Gospel; the less than completely positive response of faith in regards to Jesus. Many people responded to Jesus in some form of faith, even what they might have regarded as genuine faith; but it was a faith that was less than the faith God was looking for. Nicodemus displayed the same "less than" faith which did not recognize Jesus for who He was. John's disciples had a similar blind spot, as did Jesus' own disciples who, although they regarded Him as their Messiah, were themselves needing to do the hard work of overcoming their own misunderstandings of what that Messiah was really like. Ironically, the Samaritans who were despised by the Jews, stand out as those who demonstrated positive faith, the kind of faith that honors God. The Samaritan woman raised the question as to whether or not Jesus was the Christ and many believed that He was based on her testimony of Him and especially after hearing Him for themselves. In John 4:43-54 Jesus leaves the positively responding Samaritans and deals with the negatively responding Israelites of Galilee and we find ourselves engaged in the topic of faith. What kind of faith honors God? What is the faith God requires of us?
- What were the royal official's expectations of Jesus?
- Given the life-threatening illness of the royal official's son, Jesus' rebuke in v.48 seem insensitive even uncaring. Was it? If not, why not?
- What advancements towards a positive faith are seen in the royal official's response to Jesus? Hint: compare the royal official's faith in 46-50 with that in 51-53.
- **Community Group Discussion: What do we learn about God honoring faith from Jesus journey into Galilee from Samaria? How do we cultivate the faith God desires from us?**

Memory & Meditation Verse

"Jesus said to him, **"Go; your son lives."** The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off." John 4:50

Community Life

- Don't miss out and don't hold out. For your good, that of others and for the glory of God, be an active part of the community of believers! Tuesdays at noon for all (BYO Lunch); Thursdays at 7:00 pm for men.

Next Sunday

4/10/2016 -- Community Led Service. Please make every effort to come and support and be encouraged by each other.
4/17/2016 -- Begin Excursus on Faith. A much needed closer look at the faith God requires of us.