

SERMON NOTES: MARKS OF THE MESSIAH

Series: Luke: The Gospel of Knowing For Sure

Date: September 27, 2015

Text: Luke 7:18-35

Theme: Assurance of Jesus' Identity. How do we know Jesus is the True Messiah and Deliverer of Humanity? Dealing with doubt

1. The dilemma of John the Baptist

- a. Messianic _____ vs Messianic _____
- b. Is _____ the "One who is to come"?
- c. _____ of Jesus as Messiah: The blessedness of adjusting our perspective on God's purpose through Jesus

2. The identity and role of John the Baptist

- a. The greatest of all _____
- b. A baptism of _____
- c. Two _____

3. The nature of a rebellious humanity

- a. The parable of a _____ rhyme
- b. Who did you _____?

SMALL GROUP HOME WORK:

These questions will help prepare you for your Small Group session this week – so bring your answers with you to your Small Group meeting.

RELATE:

Share with the group some opinions of who Jesus is that you have heard from your friends.

REFLECT:

1. Why do you think John sends two people instead of going himself?
2. Compare Luke 7:22 with Luke 4:18-19. What do you notice?
3. If you had been John, wondering if Jesus was the Messiah, what evidence would you have used to make your decision?
4. Why do you think John the Baptist had doubts about who Jesus was?
5. Why didn't Jesus answer John's question directly? Why did he let his deeds speak instead?
6. Verse 23 says, "And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." In today's world, how are people's expectations of Jesus inaccurate?
7. What has causes you the most trouble with doubts? Is the source usually intellectual or moral?
8. Why does God refuse to give evidence to scoffers? Is it true that by believing a person will gain knowledge? Why?
9. Is faith opposed to being a thinking person? Why / why not?

RESPOND:

From your experiences with Jesus, what evidence could you give that might convince others that Jesus is the true Messiah?

When witnessing, to what extent should we attempt to resolve a person's questions stemming from doubt?

