



Belief: What we believe
March 4: Jesus

Series Summary: Many view doctrine as something that is only important for pastors. Nothing could be further from the truth. What we believe matters? This is why Paul told young Timothy to watch his doctrine closely (1 Tim 4:16)

Big Idea/Question: What makes someone a Christian is what they believe about Jesus.

GET THEM TALKING

What did Pastor Brooks say that stuck out to you?

What are you still uncertain about?

GROUP DISCUSSION

(an empathizing savior)

Read Hebrews 4:14-16 as a small group

Why does it matter so much that Jesus can empathize with what we go through?

What is the difference between sympathy and empathy? Why is it so much better than Jesus can empathize and not just sympathize?

Leader Note: Sympathy means that someone feels sorry for you. Empathy means they know what you are going through because they have gone through the same thing. Jesus can empathize because he has walked in our shoes (fully man).

What difficult experiences did Jesus go through just like we do today?

Leader Note: Here are some that come to mind

- Jesus mourned the loss of loved ones (John 11:32-36)
- Jesus was betrayed by those close to him (Matthew 27:3-5)
- Jesus was tempted (Hebrews 4:15) but did not sin.
- Jesus was angry at times (Matthew 21:12)

Vs 16- How should the fact that Jesus knows what we are going through change the way we pray and approach Jesus?

GROUP DISCUSSION

(a perfect example)

Read Matthew 4:1-11 as a small group

How did Jesus stand up to the temptation to sin in this passage?

Leader Note: Three times Jesus used scripture to combat temptation. This is a perfect example for us.

How can we do likewise?

Leader Note: If we have a specific area of our lives where we face temptation (such as lust, envy, etc...) we should memorize scripture that speaks on those issues so we can call them to mind in our moment of temptation.