

“FAITH TO DOUBT”

Date: May 26, 2019

Speaker: Pastor Chris Potter



Def: quick·ening

Excite, stir up, waken, animate, activate, incite, galvanize, instigate, inspire, kindle, fan, refresh, strengthen, invigorate, reanimate, reactivate, revive, revitalize, resuscitate

(Vs) Psalm 119:93 KJV - “I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.”

Each week we will together encounter a new topic/theme and with a new symbol

- Last Week – Broken heart symbolizing the quickening of being unmade
- Today – Praying Hands that Symbolize Faith

How you see faith says a lot about how you see God.

When the dust clears and in the quiet of your own heart, what kind of God do you believe in, really?

Thought: My hope is that we would develop a faith that is not so much defined by what we believe but in whom we trust.

- *(Vs.) Luke 1:11-20 (NLT)*
- *(Vs.) Luke 1:26-38 (NLT)*

2 Responses

- “How can I be sure this will happen?”
- “How can this happen?”

Faith vs. Certainty

- The more certain you are, the more goodies that we will get from God...
- 50% Certainty- You’ve hit the minimum bar of salvation. So now you are saved.
- 75% Certainty – You start moving into the “blessing zone” and now you start getting better parking spaces.
- 90% Certainty – Rebuke headaches and maybe even heal an ankle.
- 100% Certainty – Now you can move mountains, all things through Christ

Question - Who do you trust most in this world?

Faith = Trust

Somewhere along the way we left a biblical understanding of faith...

- Enlightenment/Feeling Unsure
- The Hebrew word 'aman' which has made its way into English, and we all know it as amen, only it's not a social cue to mark that we are done praying. **Amen is the final word of a prayer is the final declaration of trust;** "We're done talking now Lord. We've said our piece and put this matter into your hands. Now we trust you with it."
- We think of faith as a psychological concept, and because of that, we think that the more certain you are, the stronger your faith is.

3 Types of Psalms

1. Everything is fine. God is great. Stay the course.
2. Things are terribly wrong, and I am at the end of my rope, but thank you Lord for coming to my rescue/I know you'll come to my rescue soon.
3. Things are terribly wrong, I am at the end of my rope, and to make things worse, Oh Lord, you're nowhere to be found.

Doubt is the mechanism through which faith evolves

- Before you can get a new belief, you have to question your old beliefs
- Doubt often means that you are exploring
- It takes a lot of faith to doubt!

Biblical Faith - Willingness to Walk in Darkness

(Vs) 2 Cor. 5:7 ESV - "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

(Vs) Hebrews 11:1-2 (MSG) - "The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see."

- Church is too often the most risky place to be spiritually honest.
- If you have a doubt or a question that you don't feel safe to ask, you can ask me.
Chrisp@kessidchurch.com

When the dust clears and in the quiet of your own heart, what kind of God do you believe in, really?

- I want to follow Jesus with my head and heart fully engaged!

Do this in remembrance of me... (Vs.) 1 Cor 11:23-25 ESV. What is Jesus asking here?

- “Do to others what you would have them do to you” – so place yourself in the shoes of others. Open your heart to understand people from different beliefs, convictions, countries, and even political parties. Do this in remembrance of me.
- “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” - see the humanity in faces of those that have wronged you and seek not to get even, or to merely tolerate them, but lift up their needs to your father in heaven.” Do this in remembrance of me.
- “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...” Stay aware of how much, time and energy and anxiety is spent on material things. Rest in the fact that we are merely managers of everything we have, and freely give. Do this in remembrance of me.
- "Do not Exalt Yourself" or your perfectly ordered beliefs and theology. Stay in wonder and a posture of learning and childlike curiosity. Do this in remembrance of me.
- “Do not worry about your life...” – Realize there is a difference between awareness and anxiety. Anxiety robs not the blessing of what is present right now. You are empowered by the Holy Spirit to not live under the power of worry” - Do this in remembrance of me.
- “Love your neighbor as yourself..” – and in-so-doing allow God’s liking us to reach the place where it seems impossible to like ourselves. Do this in remembrance of me.