

Message Thoughts

This week we wrapped up our Vintage Faith series by examining what we believe about salvation. Are we saved solely by grace or do we have to do good things as well?

Discussion

Notes for discussion leader in italics. If it's helpful to read these thoughts to the group, go for it!

What does the word salvation mean to you?

How would you describe our need for salvation to a non-church friend?

Read Romans 10:9-10

What are the two parts to the salvation picture stated here?

Pastor David talked about our response to Jesus, both internal and external (believe in your heart, confess with your mouth).

**How much about Jesus do you have to know in order to “confess and believe” in Him?
In other words, do we have to have it all figured out to be saved?**

Listen to this quote from author Donald Miller, “I came to realize salvation happens through a mysterious, indefinable, relational interaction with Jesus in which we become one with him. I realized Christian conversion worked more like falling in love than understanding a series of concepts or ideas. This is not to say there are no true ideas, it is only to say there is something else, something beyond.”

What do you think of this analogy; that becoming a Christ follower - accepting salvation - is like falling in love?

Read James 2:14-26

How is this passage NOT contradictory to Romans 10?

How we live our lives is evidence of our faith. As Pastor David said, “doing good things is not a requirement for salvation, but it's not optional either.”

Does this mean that I'm not saved if I keep screwing up or if I'm still not great at helping the homeless?

No! But maybe this verse about faith without works being dead can be a kick in the pants; an opportunity to reexamine how serious we are about our faith.

Has your understanding of salvation changed or been enriched by this sermon and discussion?

**How might your new or refreshed knowledge of salvation help you in your personal life?
With your non-church friends and family?**

Prayer

High/low! Share something great from your week and something we can be praying for you about.