

This is for Real!

10.12.14

SAY WHAT: Real History

SO WHAT?: Real Faith [Matt. 7:24-27]

- The foundation of our lives is not just the words of Christ; it's *obedience* to the words of Christ.

James 2:17-18, In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

NOW WHAT: Keeping it real with me

Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on October 12, 2014

This Is For Real- Matthew 7:24-27

Ice Breaker: What are some of the "myths & fables" you grew up with? (Boogey Man, Tooth Fairy, etc.)

Questions for “GROUP DISCUSSION”

How has the Truth of God's Word changed you to become more like Christ?

How can we help others remember God's Word is "real"?

How does God's Truth shape our daily interactions with others – especially family & friends?

Questions for “PERSONAL GROWTH”

Monday- What does Jesus say about God's Word? (Matthew 4:4; 5:17) What is your personal belief about the *inerrancy* (without error or fault) of Scripture? Take a few minutes to consider, or even write down, that which causes you to believe one way or another.

Tuesday -How would you define faith? Please read Hebrews 11:1 and Romans 9:16. “Faith” is often defined as “the confident belief in something that you cannot perceive with your senses, or believing something ‘unseen’”. Based on that definition, is faith necessary to believe that all Scripture is true? Where does our faith come from?

Wednesday- Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and imagine someone asking you the question, “How do you know?” Perhaps your first answer is “Because it says so”. Imagine them then asking “But, how do you know what it says is true?” and play this out in your mind. What do you end up with as your final argument for why they should believe that the Scriptures (and the people,

places and events described within its pages) are true? Please read 1 Peter 3:15 . Why is it important that we are ready and able to “defend” our faith?

Thursday- Now, please read our primary passage: Matthew 7:24-27. Please list or circle the “action” verbs within these verses. What key steps were taken by the one who built his house on rock? What happens in v 25? Do you sometimes rationalize that as a Christian you should be protected from the “storms” of life? Even through the storm, on what basis did the house remain upright? How does James 2:17 support this truth? What “actions” should accompany faith to strengthen believers?

Friday- Please read Mathew 21:22; Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17 and 1 Corinthians 2:5. What common practices are necessary to live in faith? Upon what foundation should we “rest” our faith? In prayer, ask God to show you any areas where you might be trusting in the wisdom of man rather than the power of God.