

Faith In Jesus Changes Things

Scripture: Mark 6:14-29

Also: Mark 10:45; 1 John 4:18; Nehemiah 1:11; Romans 12:18; 1 Corinthians 15:33; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Proverbs 29:25; Matthew 10:28; Matthew 5:12; Luke 23:8-11;

Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
 2. The big point of the sermon was that fear is the underlying cause for both good and bad actions, followed by the question, who or what do you fear? Four fears were discussed from the passage: Herod feared John and others, Herodius feared conviction, but John feared God.
 - Can you explain the difference between healthy and unhealthy fear of God?
 - How does fear control people's beliefs, thoughts, actions?
 - Read Galatians 1:10. How does the concept in this verse connect to the story?
 - What fears tend to creep into your life?
 - How can you reduce your fear of that thing or things, and increase your fear of God?
 3. This passage of Scripture shows a way of addressing moral compromise.
 - What lessons can be learned from how John the Baptist did this?
 - What unbiblical practices in our country are popular, so that if you spoke out against them, you would be persecuted? Should you speak out anyway?
 4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:33, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Mark 2:15-17 and Luke 19:10.
 - How does one avoid the corrupting potential of deep friendship with those who are not followers of God, while following Jesus' example of a desire to eat with sinners and seek the lost?
 - Since it does not seem that either extreme (never being with unbelievers, or always/only being with unbelievers) is biblical, what principles can guide us?
 5. These verses cause one to question the rewards of faith in Jesus. Compare John the Baptist's life with Herod's.
 - What was the result of their lives?
 - Was it fair? Why, or why not?
 - What kind of response does this evoke in you?
 - Can you recall other stories of Christian martyrs?
- ***Ask God to help you be aware of fears you may have that hinder you following Jesus, and to increase your healthy fear of God!***