

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Following Hard After Jesus
Title: Why People Don't Believe
Speaker: Dr. Paul Chamberlain
Date: March 10, 2019



WARM-UP

Reflect on the teaching from this past weekend.

- What is one thing you found helpful and applicable for your life?
- What is something you struggled with?
- What questions did you walk away with?

DISCUSSION

Whether it be on television, radio, in the news, etc. there are often people in the public sphere who speak up about issues from their "Christian perspective." Sometimes we feel well represented by these individuals, and other times we feel like shouting to the world that the particular "Christian" view being espoused does NOT represent what we believe Christianity to actually be about (either based on what they say, or how they say it)!

- What are examples of people acting as public representatives for Christianity that make you cringe?
- What are examples of people acting as public representatives for Christianity that you have felt positive about?
- Honesty time! How much of your reaction (positive or negative) to people who act as public representatives for Christianity is tied to their presentation being faithful to the character and call of Jesus, and how much of it is simply tied to whether you feel personal embarrassment about it?

Read 1 Peter 3:8-17

- What do you note in this passage about how we are to be witnesses for Jesus in the world?

"Here is the irony: Christians are supposed to stand out as distinctive, but when we do, and are mocked or criticized for it, we are tempted to mock and criticize right back—and then we are no longer distinctive, because we are behaving just like everyone else! Another victory for the hostile world: when Christians 'give as good as they get,' repaying slander with slander, they are colluding with the surrounding world, just as surely as if they went along with immorality or financial corruption." —N.T. Wright

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"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Following Hard After Jesus

Title: A Season of Preparation

Text: Luke 4:1-13

Speaker: Matt Ewert

Date: March 3, 2019



DISCUSSION

- How can Christians effectively share the good news of Jesus in a way that embraces clarity, truth and boldness, while at the same time is characterized by gentleness and respect?
- What must we avoid?
- What must we not compromise on?

Take time to pray for one another, that each member of your group might grow in being a faithful and courageous witness for Jesus in our world.

(Life Group Leaders: We would love to have feedback in regards to any questions your group has from this, or any future Life Group discussion. While we may not be able to engage in every question, we are looking to create a forum by which to carry on the conversation and engage with feedback and questions as we are able. Please use the form at <https://www.southabbotsford.com/Messages> to interact in this way.)