

Is Faith Irrational

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October 15, 2023

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will be an agent of love where I work, live and shop.
- I will engage in spiritual conversations with people who are far from God.
- I will extend invitations, believing anyone and everyone can be a part of the church.
- I will come to church as I am, brokenness and all.
- I will trust Jesus to do his work of cleaning up my life.
- I will live like I believe that with God all things are possible.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

We all trust in certain things, and we all live with doubt, which is why we're launching this series called, "I Have a Question." We want to be a church where every person is respected and every question can get asked and dealt with in a real, open, and honest way. Our model for this is Jesus. He dealt with people with sensitivity, honesty and respect, and we want to be that way, so over the next several weeks we'll look at tough questions about our faith.

This week we lay a foundation for all of this series by asking a really basic question: Is faith irrational? Is it possible to believe deeply in reason, logic, and learning while embracing faith in an unseen, miraculous, supernatural God?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. After Jesus Resurrection Matthew 28:17 says "When they saw Him, they worshipped Him, but some doubted." Do you ever doubt God? What does God want us to do with our doubts?

2. Pastor Matt talked about believing what the authorities/ our government tells us. Did Christianity spread because the authorities supported it? How did the early church grow and expand?

3. 92% of the first 138 colleges and universities established in America were founded by Jesus followers. How has this changed? Why do you think it's changed?

4. Our public education system teaches that you can't believe in science and also believe in God (because it's unscientific). How do you feel about this?

5. Our culture today says No one can really know moral truth or spiritual truth so skepticism is the best approach. But Jesus said in John 8:31-32, "If you hold to my teaching, you really are my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." What do you think about this?

6. Hosea 4:6 says, "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge." And I Peter 1:5 says, "Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to

goodness knowledge.” Do you think faith and knowledge are opposed to one another?

7. Have you ever been with someone who could be described as the “smartest person in the room”? How did you feel about him/her? Is Christianity about being right?

8. I Corinthians 8:1-3 says, “We all possess knowledge. But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God.” So which is better – knowledge or love? What does I Corinthians 13 tell us about this?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will use reason and logic to love God with all of my mind.
- I will fearlessly and humbly follow the truth in every sphere, in every discipline.
- I will follow the truth wherever it leads, believing all truth is God’s truth.
- I will live like I believe Jesus knew what’s best for me.
- I will search my life to find those things that “I know better” about.
- I will show people God’s love, not that I’m right.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Acts 17:17-18
- John 8:31-32
- Hosea 4:6
- 2 Peter 1:5
- 1 Corinthians 13:12

- Romans 1:21
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-3

Prayer Request(s)
