



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Mathew 13:53-58

Title: Hindering Faith

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 10/25/2020

Discussion Starter –How might preconceived ideas and biases hinder your understanding of Jesus? How has your view of Jesus changed since you came to a saving knowledge of him? Why are preconceived ideas and biases so difficult to overcome? (See Matthew 13:55)

A wrong View of Jesus Hinders our Faith in Jesus

- Pastor David mentioned the concept of “Progressive revelation/sanctification”. What does this mean? (See 2 Corinthians 3:18). How might a wrong view of Jesus and his character hinder our faith? How might we overcome this? (See Philippians 1:9, Hebrews 13:8)
- Preconceived ideas about Jesus will hinder our faith. How does Jesus illustrate this? (Matthew 6:23)
- Read Colossians 1:15-22. What does “firstborn” mean in these verses? What do these verses say about creation? What does the word “fullness” mean? What do these verses say about Jesus’ reconciliation with humanity? How is it possible that we are presented holy and blameless in the sight of God?
- The people in Nazareth (family, friends) had preconceived ideas about Jesus? Why did they have such a difficult time understanding the truth of Colossians 1:15-22? What preconceived ideas about Jesus have you overcome?

Jesus’ Power is Not Limited by the Quantity/Quality of our Faith

- Did Jesus limit the benefit of miracles to only those with deep faith? (See Matthew 8:23-26, Matthew 14:31). What miracles do unbelievers experience on a daily basis?(See Romans 1:19-20)
- How are increased faith and the character of God related? (See Matthew 6:28-30).
- Why did Jesus avoid doing “mighty works” around those that had a misunderstanding of his character? (See Verse 58). Was Jesus punishing them for their lack of understanding?
- What mighty work has Jesus done in your life? How has this influenced your character and faith?
- Does deep faith lead to “gifts” from God?
- How might expectations of material gifts from Jesus hinder our understanding of him?