desertview
biblechurch

Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 41

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 16:16-33

Summary:

In this text, Jesus highlights his coming departure but continues to emphasize the hope his disciples have in him. Despite the disciples' confusion about what was about to happen, Jesus takes care to reassure them that his ultimate victory is certain and that their suffering would lead ultimately to joy! Even in the midst of chaos and tumult, Jesus is careful to bring hope to his followers by reminding them of the truths they have heard from him and by directing their attention to the Father, who is faithful.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?

2. Vv. 17-18 shows us that the disciples were confused about what was getting ready to happen. Why do you think they were confused? How does Jesus respond (vv. 19-20)?

3. **Application**: Do you ever feel confused as a disciple of Jesus? How might his words in this section help you in those moments?

4. How does Jesus' analogy to a woman giving birth help explain what was about to happen to the disciples (vv. 21-22)?

5. Notice the way Jesus shifts his disciples' attention away from himself and toward the Father (v. 23, 25-28). What do you think he is doing here? Why use this language?

6. In light of what's getting ready to happen, what is Jesus saying about the disciples' relationship with the Father (especially in vv. 26-28)?

7. **Application**: How is our relationship with the Father affected by the truth Jesus is expressing in this section?

8. Read Jesus' question in v. 31 ("Do you now believe?"). What is Jesus expressing here? Based on v. 32, how strong was the disciples' belief at this moment? What would have to happen to strengthen and deepen the disciples' belief?

9. **Application**: How does the truth of v. 33 sound in light of the events we are living through today?

10. How would you 'title' this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?