

# FAITH IN GOD'S SON

CMBC January 8, 2017

1 John 4:12 – 16; 5:1 – 5

The first person that I had the privilege of praying with as he prayed to receive Jesus, was a young 12 year old boy. It was at a children's rally in Prince George. This boy came forward at the invitation and I was asked to go and pray with him. We walked through the presentation of the Gospel and then asked if he wanted to pray to receive Jesus. He said yes. We prayed and he went away just beaming. I remember thinking, "That was so simple. Did he really become a Christian?"

Carmen was searching for God. She and her husband began coming to church and even to the mid-week Bible Study. She was totally accepting everything that she learned about Jesus, but she had never prayed the "sinner's prayer". One day as we talked, she realized that I truly believe in Jesus and what he did on the cross for me. Her prayer that day was a prayer that said "Thank you Jesus for giving me your salvation." She and her husband went on to be missionaries.

What does it mean to be a Christian?

- Believe who he is
- Commit to who he is
- Submit to who he is
- Say who he is

## 1. Believe Who He Is

- a. The basis of our salvation
  - i. **1 John 4:15** If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God
  - ii. We may not know that theology. We will never understand it all. All we know is that Jesus is the Son of God, come from heaven to bring us salvation.
  - iii. **1 John 5:1** Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.
  - iv. **1 John 2:23** No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.
  - v. **John 14:6** I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- b. How can you know?
  - i. Here is what Jesus said,  
**Matthew 16:13** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.

- ii. God is the one who makes this known to us.
- iii. **1 John 2:20** But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.
- iv. How amazing that God would come to let us know. What does that tell you about God.
- v. **1 John 4:13** We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world.

We believe who he is and...

## 2. Commit To Who He Is

- a. Belief that is all-out trust
  - i. **Mark 8:34** Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
    - 1. Denying myself is to completely put my trust in Jesus
    - 2. There is no one else.
    - 3. There is nothing else
  - ii. **1 John 5:1** Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. <sup>3</sup>This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,
- b. Belief from the heart
  - i. Not obeying out of a burdensome commitment
  - ii. Obeying out of a love and desire to please God

We commit to who he is and ...

## 3. Submit To Who He Is

- a. A new life order from that belief
  - i. **1 John 5:4** for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.
  - ii. We overcome the world through our faith.
  - iii. But the power is not in us. It is in the One in whom is our faith.
  - iv. Our desires our changed. Our hopes are changed.
  - v. Jesus is the center of our life.
- b. A belief that grows stronger
  - i. We will always be faced with the challenges of the world
  - ii. Each time we submit to Jesus and our faith in him grows stronger

## 4. Say Who He Is

- a. The first step of believing

- i. **Romans 10:9** If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
  - ii. When you truly believe in something, you want to talk about it.
  - iii. Speaking it confirms what is in your heart.
- b. Not ashamed to confess
  - i. **Matthew 10:29** Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup>But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.
  - ii. Speaking about Jesus is an important step in our continuing faith in Jesus.
  - iii. **John 6:63** The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. <sup>64</sup>Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. <sup>65</sup>He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him.” <sup>66</sup>From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

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