

More Than Stories- Live Wisely

Jesus gives us an incredibly high standard for living and interacting with the world we live in.

“These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.” Isaiah 29:13

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ 23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ Matthew 7:21-23

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

We cannot have the audacity to accept God’s gift of grace without accepting the terms of living in accordance with it.

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” Matthew 7:24-27

The connections between hearing and believing and believing and then doing is what identifies an authentic follower of Jesus.

13 “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. Matthew 7:13-14

(slides only) “The Bible is the inspired Word of the Creator, true in all it affirms, and utterly necessary for understanding who God is, who we are, and how we are meant to live as his people.”

When our will and beliefs come into conflict with God's then it is ours who must yield.

Wrong Belief/Wrong Practice

Right Belief/Wrong Practice.

Wrong Belief/Right Practice.

Right Belief/Right practice.

We have to love our neighbors enough to continually live and teach that the way of Jesus truly is a better way.