



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of July 4, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 2:21-24

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

Jesus shows us His humility and depth of love for His people through the act of circumcision. Although He was already holy and sinless, Jesus nonetheless underwent the painful procedure that symbolized the removal of sin and the separation from the world of God's people. From birth, Jesus was already fulfilling the very purpose and meaning of His name, "for He will save His people from their sins" (Mat 1:21). Joseph and Mary's humility is also revealed in today's passage by their devout obedience to the Word of God.

Discussion Questions

1. *Although not part of the actual teaching of Luke 2:21-24, Pastor Dan also shared his thoughts on the recent Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. This first question deals with this topic.* Each local church in the SBC is independent and autonomous and does not fall under a centralized authority structure. What are the strengths and weaknesses of such a structure? In your opinion, what are the benefits of being part of the Southern Baptist Convention? Are there any drawbacks?
2. Circumcision symbolized the cutting away of something sinful. Why then, if Jesus was without sin, did He need to be circumcised? How does Jesus' circumcision point to His later sacrifice for us on the cross?
3. Jesus' parents also had a deep humility towards God. In our sermon we heard that humility unto God is obedience unto God. Do you agree that the best thing a parent can give their kids is their own genuine devotion to God? Why or why not? What does genuine humility and devotion to God look like practically?
4. In our sermon, we learned that parenting is a stewardship rather than ownership. Our children belong to God more than they belong to us. How does this mindset make a difference in the way a parent raises their children?
5. From an illustration from Alistair Begg: If you were to die tonight and you were asked why you should be let into heaven, why is answering this question in the first person wrong? In other words, why would it be wrong to start off your answer by saying, "because *I* had faith...or because *I* trusted in Jesus as my Savior and Lord"? How should you answer this question?