



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of February 20, 2022

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 7:18-23

18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, 19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 20 And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers[e] are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

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' compassion for hurting believers is seen in his response to John the Baptist's questions and doubt. John the Baptist was a great and faithful prophet of God. He was ordained from birth to be filled with the Holy Spirit and designated to be a herald for the coming Messiah. He baptized Jesus in the Jordan river where he saw the Holy Spirit descend like a dove and heard the voice of God declare Jesus to be His beloved Son. Yet John doubted. Suffering and pain coupled with an incomplete understanding of Jesus led to unrealized expectations that resulted in doubt. Jesus responds by performing a flurry of miracles and points John back to the Scriptures to show him that indeed, Jesus is Messiah the King.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever experienced "believer's doubt"? If so, explain in as much (or as little) detail as you'd like, the circumstances that led to your doubt? If you've never experienced this, how would you define "believer's doubt" and what might cause it?

2. How was John the Baptist's understanding and expectations of Jesus incomplete and skewed? In what ways might your understanding and expectations of Jesus be incomplete and skewed?
3. How did Jesus respond to John's doubt? Do you think Jesus' answer to John's doubt was sufficient for John? Why or why not?
4. How does Jesus' death on the cross, coupled with the Scriptures, help to restore the faith of a doubting believer?