

Jesus is Bigger than our Backsliding

SMALL GROUP NOTES

Martin Segal 2015

Outline

On Sunday Martin continued our Bigger series by looking at a big question many Christians wrestle with throughout their lives - how do I know if I'm saved? The Jewish Christians were at risk of renouncing their faith in Jesus and going back to how things used to be, we still face the challenge of something or someone coming into our lives which can result in as some call it backsliding. We saw on Sunday that the warnings in Hebrews need to be taken seriously; the passage highlighted three key warnings;

- 1) Laziness (Hebrews 5:11) We see this type of warning throughout the New Testament and need to ensure we are giving ourselves to the Lord growing in maturity and passion.
- 2) Foundations (Hebrews 5:12-6:3) The next warning was about how important it is for us as Christians to know and have established in us the foundational truths of the faith.
- 3) Falling Away (Hebrews 6:4-8) The final warning is about falling away from the faith, deliberately and totally rejecting the truth and that ultimately that leads to an unending rebellion.

Yet the passage doesn't end there because although we need to take seriously the warnings ultimately we saw that we find a security too because Jesus is bigger than our backsliding. Our salvation is not reliant on us and our good works but on him and his promises. We looked at two places we find security;

- 1) Faith (Hebrews 6:9-12) We saw that Faith in Jesus means we have an identity that is unshakeable, we are beloved! Dearly loved cherished ones to him, who can trust for better things because of who he is.
- 2) Promises (Hebrews 6:13-19) We also saw God himself and his promises gives us security that he has spoken an eternal hope that cannot be taken away gives us security because he has said it and he cannot break his promises nor can he lie.

Scripture

Hebrews 5:11-6:19

Questions for discussion

1. Have you ever struggled with the question of can I lose my salvation? How has that impacted your walk with God?
2. How can we help ourselves and one-another to take the warnings seriously?
3. Why does knowing that you are Gods beloved help you through your doubts?
4. How does the character of God impact your day to day life

Tags

Doubt, Salvation, Promises, Faith, Laziness, Doctrine, Identity, Hope, Eternal