

Discipleship Virtue: BELIEVING**Believing is placing confidence in God.**

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." - John 20:29

ETERNITY – "WHY BELIEVE?"**STARTER QUESTIONS:**

Describe ETERNITY in 1 word?

Why do you believe there really is an eternity?

How would you describe eternity to someone if they asked?

MAIN IDEA:

Today we started a series on ETERNITY. This series will discuss why we should believe in life after death and what that looks like according to Jesus and the Bible, and more importantly how we should be preparing for eternity. Pastor Hank said, "...every man and every woman and every little guy and every little gal who has ever lived has had an inherent sense that there is more to this life than just what you see in the here and now... that there is an afterlife."

KEY VERSE:

"God has planted eternity in the hearts of men."

Eccl 3:11 (TLB)

What does Jesus and the Bible say about eternity:

1. Jesus promised eternity.

"Jesus replied, 'I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.'" Luke 23:43 (NLT)

2. Jesus taught about eternity.

- Everyone will spend eternity somewhere. Jesus taught that our souls, our personalities, the true essence of who we are as people will be resurrected.

"There will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked." Acts 24:15 (NIV)

3. The Bible speaks of Immediate Judgement

*"It is destined that each person dies only once and after that comes judgment."
Heb 9:27 (NLT)*

What do you think judgement will be like?

If we believe in eternity, we are called to all be disciples of eternity.

How should we tell others why they should believe in eternity? (Have everyone answer)

If somebody you loved asked you today, "How do I get to heaven?" what would you say?

When we prepare for a vacation, most of us plan, make reservations, and study the place we are going. We should prepare the same way for eternity..... Most of us have already made our reservation, but we are maybe a little behind the preparation phase.

What is one way you could better prepare for your trip to eternity?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

The insider guide to eternity is the Bible. It has all the descriptions, limitations and expectations for us to prepare for an awesome experience.

What do you need to do or say to God to get ready for eternity?

How can our group pray for you?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Additional Scripture:

Believing: John 1:12, Mark 9:23, Romans 10:9-10

Eternity: John 6:50-71, Matthew 25:46, Galatians 6:8

ETERNITY
“Why Believe?”
March 11, 2018

"God has planted eternity in the hearts of men." Ecclesiastes 3:11 (TLB)

As he was starting out on a trip, a man came running to him and knelt down and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to get to heaven?" Mark 10:17 (Living)

Why believe there really is an eternity?

1. Laws of Nature
2. Laws of Physics
3. Sense of fairness
4. The study of mankind
5. Near-Death Experiences
6. The Bible.
7. Jesus

"Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43 (NLT)

Jesus' teaching about Eternity:

- Everyone will spend eternity somewhere

"There will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked." Acts 24:15 (NIV)

- Immediate judgment

"It is destined that each person dies only once and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27 (NLT)

- Heaven really is a "better place"