

Week 3- "The Confidence Of Christmas"

In this series we are asking Why is the arrival of a child born in Bethlehem such a big deal in our world, not just historically, but still a big deal today? In this week's message we look at a letter John wrote that speaks into questions that people who are exploring faith ask, and a big insecurity religious people experience: "Can I be confident that I have eternal life? And am I in right standing with God?"

1. When have you found yourself wrestling through doubts, questions, and insecurities around where you stand with God?

2. What would you say triggers doubts around eternal life and a right standing with God?

3. When doubts and questions come up do you think it's important to figure out why you have them? Why or why not?

Read 1 John 1:1-3, 1 John 2:1-2,12

4. John was addressing the doubts early followers were having around eternal life, especially when they messed up and found themselves struggling with sin. Why do you think mess and sin tend to trigger doubts and insecurity for people?

5. What do you think it looks like to rest in what Jesus has done even when you bump into mess and sin?

6. Do you base your security on you or do you base it on Jesus and what He has done for you?

In his letter, John pointed out what he discovered about Christmas: that life appeared and life is made possible through Jesus. When we acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God we can have His life, forgiveness, connection with God and eternal life. Life is not based on what we do, what we have done, or what we have not done, it is based on the fact that Jesus showed up, died on the cross, rose again, and through faith in Him we have life eternal, and can rest in that truth because History can not be undone.