

The Passion of Jesus [John 12:36-50]

John 12:36 [Jesus concluded] ***“While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”*** When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. ³⁷ Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸ so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

*“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”* [Isa. 53:1]

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

⁴⁰ *“He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,
lest they see with their eyes,
and understand with their heart, and turn,
and I would heal them.”* [Isa. 6:9, 10]

⁴¹ Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. [Isa. 6:1]

⁴² Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

⁴⁴ And Jesus cried out and said, ***“Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵ And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶ I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. ⁴⁷ If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸ The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”***

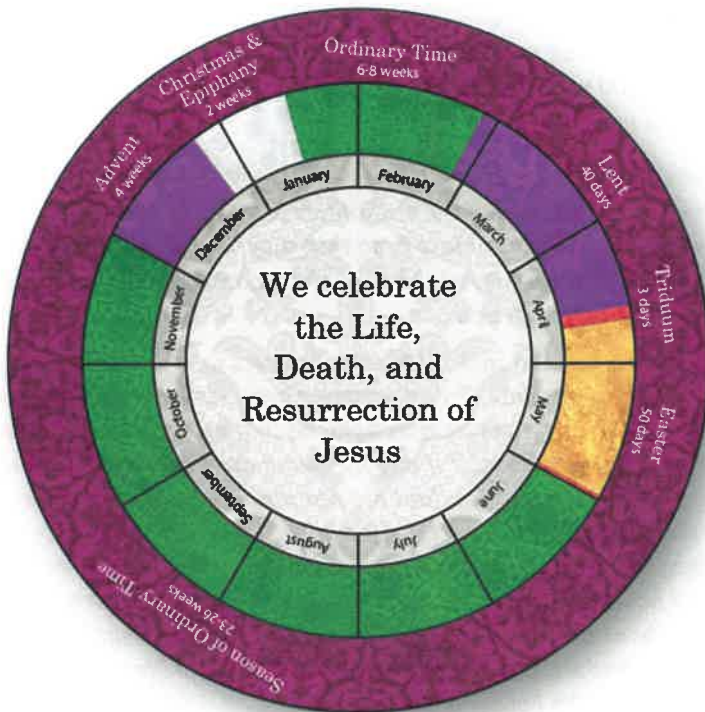
Truth Claim: Jesus is THE Revealer of God.

1. If true, why do people reject Jesus? (12:37-40)
2. Is secret belief in Jesus a saving faith? (12:41-43)
3. Is it enough to just believe in “God”? (12:44-50)

Welcome: We hope you received a warm welcome today. God is good!

As we prepare for Easter, we are in a series called “The Passion of Jesus” referring to the final week of Jesus’ life, which was about his suffering on our behalf that he would bring us into a relationship with God. To learn more, join us each Sunday as the gospel is revealed.

Also, to prepare for Easter, we will be participating in Lent – 40 plus days of spiritual sacrifice of excess in anticipation of remembering Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection. If you would like to learn more about Lent and fasting / prayer / spiritual disciplines associated with Lent, join Emma Yeager’s class at 9am Sunday beginning January 29th. This will go for 4 weeks and end prior to Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent). To learn more, see the liturgical calendar below:



Sermon Application: Is it enough to simply believe in God? Why is believing in Jesus as God’s Son and THE Revealer of God to humanity so important? Read Romans 2:12-16 and 1 John 2:23 – wrestle with what these verses are saying. What difference do these verses make in my life?