

Questions for A Long Look At Salvation wk6

- Had you ever heard the Puritan saying, “The same sun that hardens the clay, melts the heart.” before this sermon?
 - Do you think the saying is true in relation to the gospel? Have you ever seen people react in very different ways to the same good news of the gospel?
 - Why do you think the gospel would harden anyone’s heart?
- Read Luke 11:23. Pastor Keith said that Jesus was really demanding a response to Himself and the message of the gospel. Would you agree? Was Jesus really demanding a response?
- In John 6:60-70 many people left Jesus because “this was a hard teaching.” Do you think people leave the faith when they encounter “hard teachings?” Why?
- Do you think that the truths of the gospel have been divorced from real life, or that we have heard them so often that we no longer REALLY hear them in the American church? Why or why not? What about our church? What about in your life?
- How can you tell if someone has been “inoculated to Jesus?” What are some signs? The more difficult question: How can you tell if you have been inoculated to Jesus?
 - Have you ever heard someone give their “spiritual resume” as a smoke screen to their lack of commitment to Christ? Have you?
 - Why do we have such a hard time getting to the same place Paul arrived at: we call our spiritual resume what it is: dung?
- Read Isaiah 6:9-10. Why do you think God would ask Isaiah to take on such a fruitless ministry?
- Is it freeing to know that the response of a person you share the gospel with is not in your hands?
 - So how should we view our ministry of sharing Christ with others? What are we called to be?
- Many of us think of someone whose heart is hard toward the gospel as being outside the church. Did you ever think that people inside the church could also have hard hearts toward the gospel?
- Pastor Keith mentioned in passing a book by Bob Briner entitled, *Roaring Lambs*. The author uses the term “Christian Ghetto.” Without benefit of reading the book, what do you think the Christian Ghetto is?
 - How do we break from from the Christian Ghetto?
- Pastor Keith gave us three questions to diagnose our hearts to see if we were becoming or are hard hearted to the gospel.
 - Why did you come to church? How do you respond when discussing tithing? How do you respond when told that each person needs to be involved in ministry?
 - Do you think those questions are fair?
 - Do you think they diagnose the heart?
 - Can you think of other questions that might help diagnose our hearts as to whether we are becoming or are hard hearted to the gospel in our hearts and lives?