

Today's Message: Clearly Controversial

Series: *Hidden In Plain Sight*

Date: Sunday, February 4, 2024

Big Idea: We Can Look Beyond The Confusion and Controversy and See Christ Clearly!

After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee. When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?" Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." (Matthew 11:1-6)

1 – We can look beyond the confusion and see Jesus if our _____ are for him and not about him!

"To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others: " 'We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds." (Matthew 11:16-19)

2 – We can look beyond the controversy and see Christ if we realize some people just _____ to see!

Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. (Matthew 11:20)

At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath." (Matthew 12:1-2)

But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus. (Matthew 12:14)

But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons." (Matthew 12:24)

Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." (Matthew 12:38)

3 – We can look beyond the controversy and see Christ if we realize some are going to be _____ opposed!

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

4 - We can look beyond the confusion and controversy to see Christ clearly if we are willing to see _____ clearly!