

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

5/30 & 5/31

[1 John 1:1-4](#) – When you are convinced of something, what does it take to change your mind? It should take substantial evidence and reflection to change your core convictions. The opening of John's letter tells us that John is convinced that Jesus is the Son of God and the Son of Man. He says that he has seen with his own eyes, heard with his own ears, and touched with his own hands the resurrected Jesus. There is nothing that will convince him of anything else. John will share who Jesus is and what Jesus has done to all those he meets. He is not going to leave a place without telling them about his beliefs in Jesus.

How convinced are you that Jesus is who he said he is?

How have your convictions come out through your daily activities?

How do people know about your convictions?

Sermon Notes



Our Journey for May 25 – May 31, 2026

Why do you believe what you believe? Is it because you understand what the Bible says? Is it because someone you respected told you to believe in it? Rev. Dennis Henley is sharing a timely message on knowing what we believe. Many people are diving into their beliefs to see whether they are true. Where should one go to find their answers? They should start with the Bible. The Bible is God's interaction with humanity from creation to the second coming of Jesus. Should this be done alone? A person could, but it is better to have a friend with you, so you have someone else to help you understand what is being said and how to put it into practice. You might want another person who can guide you to where the Bible speaks about the things you believe, especially if you are in a discerning process of whether or not your belief is true. As you go on this journey, take your time and seek others to go with you.

~ Pastor Seth

WHERE SHOULD I START?

Mon. 5/25

[Psalm 119:25-32](#) - Where do we start when we are trying to understand what we believe? We start with God. Verse 26 says that the psalmist gave an account, and God answered. The psalmist doesn't share God's response, but the answer caused the psalmist to learn more about God by meditating on God's wonderful deeds. We do the same thing. When our relationship with God begins, we give an account of our ways, and He forgives us. As we receive His forgiveness, we want to know more about how we should love God and follow Him. Like the psalmist, we dig deeper into the Bible because God is the same yesterday, as He is today, as He will be tomorrow.

When your relationship with God began, what did you do?

What are you currently doing to learn more about God?

AWARENESS

Tue. 5/26

[Genesis 28:10-22](#) – How aware are we of God's presence? What would it take for us to know God is with us? Jacob was sent by his father to find a wife from his mother's family. On his journey, he comes to this nondescript place, where God shows up. Jacob is surprised to find God there and receives a vision of the angels ascending and descending on a stairway. God promises to be with Jacob and make his descendants as numerous as the dust on the earth. Jacob is surprised by this vision and promise. You can hear his excitement about meeting with God. Jacob was not the perfect saint after this moment with God. He would do some mischievous things, but God continued to be with him. Jacob learned to trust God over his lifetime.

When have you been excited about meeting with God?

How are you leaning on God today?

WATERING OUR SOUL

Wed. 5/27

[Isaiah 55:1-13](#) – What would happen if it stopped raining for a month? We have a glimpse of this in July and August. The grass dries out, flowers wilt, and leaves of trees die off. There are times when our souls feel dried out. We question our faith and God. As Isaiah is listening for God, he hears this message about people without money buying food and water, the things they need to be nourished. Later in the text, he hears that as the rain and snow water the earth, so His word goes out and does what it is designed to do, water our souls. There is a part that we play in this. We are to go to Him. We are to go and seek Him. The questions about our faith help us seek Him and discover who He is. The questions open a door for us to know the truth.

How dry is your soul?

Where will you find the nourishment that you need?

YOU HEARD IT SAID...BUT I TELL YOU.

Thur. 5/28

[Matthew 5:1-7:29](#) - This is a lengthier passage than what we usually read. As you read, take note of how many times Jesus says, you heard it said...but I tell you. As Jesus teaches on the mountainside, he raises expectations for how people should live out their faith. They understood how they were supposed to live according to the religious leaders, but Jesus' heart is for them to take the next step in living out their faith. Think of it like this: when you were younger, you ate pureed food. As you grew older, you ate solid food. You can still eat pureed food, but you don't want to. You want the steak and potatoes whole, not mashed up. You changed and grew. Jesus is leading the crowd and us to change, to grow in our faith, and take the next steps.

How are you living out Matthew 5:1-7:29? What needs to change?

How is the Holy Spirit helping you to change?

A WAY OF LIFE

Fri. 5/29

[2 Timothy 3:10-17](#) – Do you have rules for your life, like forgiving others? Or helping those in need? What are those rules based on? Are they based on scripture? Are they based on culture or what feels right? Paul writes a letter to his spiritual son, Timothy, about the calling on his life. In this part of his letter, Paul shares with Timothy the source of how he should live, the Bible. Paul says that all scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, correcting, rebuking, and training in righteousness. Paul shares this because he sees God's call on Timothy's life and knows that Timothy can empower the people around him to follow Jesus. We may not be Timothy, but we have the scriptures that give us the knowledge and the ability to live out God's calling on our lives.

What rules do you live by that are inspired by God?

How are you living them out and explaining them to others?