

I Believe in Jesus

Introduction – “I Believe In Jesus”

Hymn #163, “Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know”

Jesus Crucified

1. Opening our hearts to the gift of faith in Jesus

Early Christians had to find Jesus for themselves

God shows no partiality

John Wesley on faith (p. 13,14)

Experiences of the risen Lord (John 20)

Hymn #310, “He Lives”

2. Faith in Jesus Over the Generations

Apostles’ Creed - Early “Heresies”

The Atonement

Substitute, Saving Example, Conqueror, New Humanity

“I am the vine” John 15

John Wesley’s concept of grace

Prevenient, Justifying, Sanctifying, Perfecting

3. Whose Faith Counts?

Jesus’ Words

Hymn: #714 “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

4. Faith in Jesus in a Postmodern World

Jesus’ Actions

Believing more important than understanding - Mark 9:14-29

Sense of mystery in addition to scientific proof

Paul’s Christology – 1 Cor.15:1-7

Birth of Jesus: Galatians 4:4, Phil. 2:5-7a, page 62

Jesus is both incarnate Word & resurrected Lord

5. Envisioning a Faithful Church in a Postmodern World

God doesn’t speak in one language

Called to minister to all: - Sojourner, widow, orphan, poor

Christ is Lord & Messiah – all of life is under him

“God so loved the world...” John 3:16

Galatians 5:1, 13-14 - Share God’s love unconditionally

Are we willing to trust wisdom of God? 1 Cor.1:18,25a

Hymn: #170 “O How I Love Jesus”

6. Believing is Seeing

“Here is the Lamb of God” John 1:29-42

Touch of the Holy Spirit - Isaiah 49:6

Martin Luther King, Jr. – “I have a dream” p.95

“Who do people say that I am?” Mark 8:27

Jesus’ Identity - Healing ministry

“in persona Christi”

Ancestors of the faith: Hebrews 11 (p.103)

In Christ our hope has been made complete

Hymn: #715 “Rejoice, the Lord is King”