

Priming the Pump

1. Begin by reading the Scripture for this week's message, Luke 7:18-35.
2. Think about a time that you visited another church, whether for a holiday service or a special event or when you were searching for a church home. Remember the expectations you had going in; how did the church match and how did it differ from what you expected?

Getting into the Word

3. When John the Baptist had doubts if Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus referred to His miracles as Scriptural proof that He is the One who came to provide salvation. Read each of the below prophecies from Isaiah, and write down the corresponding miraculous proof Jesus listed from v.22 of our passage:
 - a. Isaiah 35:5-6
 - b. Isaiah 61:1
 - c. Isaiah 26:19
 - d. Isaiah 29:18
 - e. Isaiah 33:23-24
4. The Pharisees judged John the Baptist and Jesus by their own stupidity rather than by God's wisdom, and their conclusions were wrong. Read other times when Jesus rebukes the religious leaders of Israel for their false teachings, noting what they had wrong and how they could have gotten it right again:
 - a. Matthew 23:16-22
 - b. Matthew 23:23-24
 - c. Mark 12:18-27

Crossroads Covenant Church
Sermon-based Small Groups worksheet (*continued*)
for the week of May 12, 2019

5. Talking about doubt this week, Pastor Aaron reminded us to be humble when bringing our doubts or questions to God, without blame or presumption, because He is perfect and holy. Read the following sections from Habakkuk and answer the questions:
 - a. Read from Habakkuk 1:2-4 and 1:12-2:1. What questions did Habakkuk ask the Lord and how did Habakkuk maintain his humility before the Lord?
 - b. Read from Habakkuk 1:5-11 and 2:2-5. How did the Lord answer Habakkuk?
 - c. Read the prophet's prayer in Habakkuk 3:1-19, which is made up entirely of adoration and praise for the Lord. Sit quietly with this prayer for a few moments. Why did Habakkuk respond to the Lord's answers this way? What characteristics of God overwhelmed him while God was answering his questions?

Digging Deeper

6. Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest ever born of women, and yet in our passage John expressed doubt whether Jesus was the Messiah or if there was someone else coming later. Even the great believers of the Bible experienced times of doubt. Read through the below Scriptures and select one that you can identify with. Share with the group about your time of doubt, why you identify with the selected Bible figure, and how the Lord brought you through it.
 - a. Abraham, in Genesis 15:2-6
 - b. Moses, in Exodus 4:10-16
 - c. Gideon, in Judges 6:14-24
 - d. Elijah, in 1 Kings 19:14-18
 - e. Hezekiah, in 2 Kings 19:1-7
 - f. David, in Psalm 13:1-6
 - g. Peter, in Matthew 14:28-33
 - h. Thomas, in John 20:24-29
7. Discuss with your group how you can encourage one another in times of doubt and questioning.