

#7: Expect & Inspect

1 John 4:7-12, 16

Discipleship

- A focus on discipleship involvement is a focus on ACCOUNTABILITY.

The danger of being a fickle fan and not a faithful follower.

PROFESSING WITHOUT PRACTICE IS CONDEMNED

- *Matthew 7:21-23*

GOD IS INTERESTED IN OBEDIENCE, NOT SIMPLY KNOWLEDGE

- *Matthew 7:24-27*

PERIL OF MORALLY CLEAN BUT EMPTY HEARTS

- *Matthew 12:43-45*

PROBLEM WITH EMOTIONAL HEARERS, FICKLE FANATICS

- *Matthew 13:5-6*

PERIL OF APOSTASY

- *Hebrews 6:1-6*

COMMITMENT PRESCRIBED

- *Luke 9:23*

COMMITMENT EXEMPLIFIED

- *1 Kings 19:19-21*

For completed notes of today's sermon, visit the FFC website – www.faithfellowship.us. Thank you.

Palm Sunday
Fickle or Faithful
Luke 19:28-40

Faith Fellowship Church
Pastor Bob Froese
March 16, 2008

Fickle Fan or Faithful Follower

Luke 19:28-40

Questions

- Ever recognized that we live in a culture of fickle fanaticism?
- What about church?
- What's genuine worship? Can it be feigned?

Fans are all about formalized RELIGION.

SERVANTS are all about the Savior.

- Some are faithful to attend Sunday morning worship and they appreciate church, but don't want it to REGULATE their life.
- Some are willing to join the church, but not SERVE it.
- Both of these groups practice a formalized religion that lacks spiritual health and commitment.

Palm Sunday

The great insight of the faithful was that this Jesus really is “*the King who comes in the name of the Lord.*” (Luke 19:38)

- But the great misunderstanding of the fanatics: He would enter Jerusalem and by His mighty works, take His throne and free Israel.
- Palm Sunday was a day of faithful insight and a day of fickle misunderstanding.**

- FAITHFULNESS gave joy.
- FANATICISM brought about destruction.

Blessed Is the King Who Comes

“I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.” Luke 19:40

Why? Because He will be PRAISED.

- He can make praise come from ROCKS. And so He could do the same from the rock hard HEARTS of humans. But how?
- Ephesians 4:11-16 gives a basic blueprint for healthy congregational life.

#1: Faithfulness

Ephesians 4:11-16

God’s plan can’t OPERATE on autopilot.

- The motivating principle of ministry is not numerical growth. It is FAITHFULNESS!
- The goal: UNITY of the faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

#2: Rooted in God’s Word

Ephesians 4:14

The Bible is the infallible guide to both faith and PRACTICE.

- The measure: steadfast JOY.
- Is there movement towards DENYING yourself in pursuing Truth?

#3: Sinners need a Savior

Isaiah 53:2-3

“Goodie Two Shoes” DESIRE a god.

- The message: must be TOTAL truth in LIVING love.
- What must I do to be saved!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

#4: Obedience

Ephesians 4:16a, Philippians 2:5-7

SACRIFICIAL Service

- The fruit of FAITH is spiritual growth – into Christ-likeness.
- The response of a disciple of Christ is an ACT of obedience, not simply a CONFESSION of faith in Jesus (Matthew 4:19).

Jesus had no agenda except to DO His Father’s will.

- Yet, we measure God’s blessing by results, equating serving God to PRESTIGE of position; comfort and success must mark our efforts.

The mind of Christ is humble SERVICE.

- Jesus EMPTIED Himself to do the will of His Heavenly Father.

Nothing is more sacred to us than our REPUTATION.

- Jesus MADE Himself of no reputation (*Philippians 2:6*).

#5: Checkbook & Daytimer

“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, but he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”

John 12:24-25

Are you living/giving SACRIFICIALLY?

- MOTIVATION is as important as the manner (*Philippians 3:17-21*).
- You can give without worshipping, but you can’t worship without GIVING.

#6: Relationship & Responsibility

Ephesians 4:16c

Result: Contagious character, UNIFIED focus and goal.

- In an age when calling for personal investment of any kind is unpopular, the church exists to GLORIFY God in a unified body.