

Faithful Disciples

The background of the slide is a photograph of a person's legs and feet walking on a sandy, textured ground. The person is wearing dark shorts and white socks. The feet are positioned in the upper center of the frame, with one foot slightly ahead of the other. The sand is a warm, golden-brown color with some darker, wet-looking patches. The overall lighting is soft and warm, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. - 1 John 2

Because of this....

Faithful Disciples

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Series – Faithful Disciples

- basis for next weeks important
- foundations matter

Matthew 15:8-9 *“This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”*

- heart matters

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Because of this.....

1 Cor. 13:1-4 "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing."

Hebrews 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Faithful Disciples

Because of this.....

1. God is For You, not About you

a) God created with purpose

- reflects his glory – Psalm 19:1 *“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”*

- reflects his power and nature – Rom. 1:20 *“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”*

b) designed to be for & reflect God's Glory

- our enjoyment, provision, protection ensured
- relationship with God the design
- for us – not about us

2. Problem of Sin & Separation from God

a) Rebellion – my way not yours

- Gen. 3 – fall, curse, separation
- enemy – destroying what God designed for himself

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Because of this.....

b) we are tainted by this

- Eph. 2:1-3 *“And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.”*

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Because of this.....

- Romans 3:23 *“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”*
- Romans 6:23 *“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*
- truth – we are all participants in that rebellion. We deserve punishment and eternal separation from our creator and loving God.
- c) without resources to save ourselves

3. God about Redeeming what is His

a) Story of God's redemption – setting apart a people and providing a solution

b) Jesus is that Solution

- Son of God, Perfect and Sinless

- John 3:16-17 *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him”*

c) Jesus in My Place

- Eph. 2:4-9 *“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”*

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Because of this.....

- 1 Cor. 15:1-4

- Romans 4:25

- 1 Thess. 5:9-10 *“For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.”*

d) we are.... Eph. 1:3-14

- justified, forgiven, adopted, given full inheritance, eternity secured, Holy Spirit

4. Called to Respond

a) Personal Acceptance

- Romans 10:9-11 *“because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”*

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Because of this.....

b) Faithful Disciples

- Eph. 2:10 *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”*

- John 14:23-24 *“Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.”*

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- 1 Cor. 10:31 *“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”*

- Romans 12:1-2 *“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

So What

1. Our Foundation and Motivation Matter
 - spend time reflecting on what motivates
 - spend time reviewing the truth you respond to
2. Important to Recognize what is going on
 - God redeeming what's His for His glory
3. Understand the Problem of Sin
 - you have an enemy that desires destruction

4. Participation in God's Redemptive Work

- personal response unto salvation
- participation as a disciple
- giving God glory with worship as response