

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

THE MISSION AND VISION OF LIFEPOINT CHURCH IS  
TO LEAD PEOPLE TO BECOME FULLY DEVOTED  
FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST.



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2023  
**WE BELIEVE... YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN**

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette



## ICEBREAKER

Do you prefer the cozy side of Fall or the spooky Halloween aspect?  
Please share.

### Introduction

- At LifePoint Church, “We believe you must be born again.” Do you remember the day you were born again? Please share. If you have yet to be born again, what do you imagine it being like?
- Have you ever heard someone say, “Well, all good people go to heaven”? What are your thoughts on that? How did you respond?
- Read John 3:1-6. What message was Jesus trying to convey to Nicodemus? When did you first understand the message Jesus was conveying to Nicodemus?
- In what way does the Nicodemus story encourage you to invite a non-believer to come to know Christ?
- Luke 19:9-10 tells us that God’s plan has always been to save us. How does it make you feel knowing that His specific plan was to save YOU from the very beginning?

### What Salvation Required of God

- We’ve always heard that God SENT His Son to us, but how does it make you feel that God the Son CHOSE to be the final sacrifice to ever be offered for sin?
- 1 John 2:2 tells us that Jesus died for the sins of the whole world! Who would you be surprised to see in heaven? According to this truth in scripture, what should we be doing when it comes to those we struggle with?



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- Do you accept that your sins are covered by Jesus? If Jesus has paid for the sins of the world, what makes you think He can't pay for yours?
- Hebrews 10:10-12 tells us that God knew that no one could offer enough bulls and lambs and birds to be sacrificed to pay for all of the sins of the world. How does it make you feel to know that we would ALL be living in our own sin debt and unable to ever come to God without the sacrifice of Jesus? What would that even look like?

#### What Salvation Requires of Us

- What was your previous understanding of salvation? How did this message change it?
- Salvation is offered to us, all we have to do is accept that we're sinners, believe that Jesus died for us and raised from the dead for us, and then receive that free gift by faith in Jesus, not by our own efforts. Have you done this and fully committed your life to Him? If so, who do you need to tell about this? If not, why not?
- Have you ever thought of accepting salvation as losing control?
- Do your worldly relationships have an affect on your ability to accept salvation? What about on your relationship with Jesus?
- Have you ever said to yourself, "Well, maybe I sinned, but I'm not as bad as that person"? What would Jesus say about that if you were saying that to HIM?



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### What Salvation Produces In Us

- Think about the weight of the sin that permeates your life, as it does for all of us. Now, imagine God lifting that sin from your shoulders. Describe that feeling to a non-believer.
- Religion teaches us to change our behaviors! Relationship with God will change your heart! How does that look in your life? How were you before God permanently changed your heart? How are you now?
- Once we accept God's gift of salvation, the things we want change. We no longer desire the sinful things we used to. The fruit of your life begins to look like Jesus! What are some fruits of your life now that reflect the image of Jesus? Are there some that look like your own accomplishments?
- In your walk with God, do you need structure? Would you rather follow rules or follow by faith? Why?



# ACT ON IT



## ENCOURAGE

To be born again is truly unique to the Christian faith. To see the Kingdom of God, we believe you must be born again, born of the Spirit. God's plan from the very beginning was to save and recreate us. Since we're born as sinners, it is a righteous requirement of God to require that our sins be paid for, so God the Son became the final sacrifice for us to be reborn. Wow, what a gesture of true love! When we accept that we are born sinners and believe that Jesus died for our sins, we receive salvation by faith not by earning it. All we have to do is believe and receive and we get the greatest exchange of becoming a brand new creation in Christ. What a beautiful message to share with the world!



## ASK

What old thoughts of salvation do you need to set aside to make way for the truth? In what ways do you see salvation in your own life? Is there anything you're struggling to submit to God that's hindering your salvation? How can your small group help?



## CHALLENGE

Pray and repent about at least one thing in your life and ask the Lord to help you submit it to Him. How can you change someone else's idea on salvation? "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. no one comes to the Father except through me."- Jesus. Find someone this week to share the Gospel with and intentionally find time to do it.

## PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the gift of salvation. Thank You for loving us so much that You chose to come and shed blood for our sins. Thank You that it's not up to us to earn it, that all we have to do is believe in You and receive salvation in faith. We believe in Jesus, that You died for us to be free from our sin, all of us. We accept Your salvation. With each day from here on out, through the Power of Your Spirit, help us continue to die to ourselves and live for You. Give us the strength to continue to say no to things that mean us harm and to make room for the things that will bring us life. We pray this hope over the lost as well, that those who need You will come to know You in ways like never before. We rejoice that You died for the sins of the whole world, not just ours. We place our present and our future in Your hands, trusting in You always. Amen.



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2023  
**WE BELIEVE... JESUS IS GOD**  
Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette



## ICEBREAKER

How long is TOO long to leave up your Christmas lights?

### Introduction

- What was your idea/view of Jesus before and after you became a follower?
- Describe where you are right now in your relationship with Jesus.
- What is something or some things you thought about Jesus based on other people's opinions that you've found to be untrue?

### We Believe Jesus Is God Forever

- Before this sermon, did you know the Christian faith had so many distinctions from other religions? What do you think about that?
- Do you understand the Holy Trinity or do you still have questions? What scripture helps you with this? If you're struggling, how can the group help you in your understanding?
- What other scriptures/readings/teaching etc. do you use to remind yourself that Jesus is God?

### We Believe Jesus Is LORD Over All

- How do you view your relationship with the LORD? Do you have a hard time relating to Him? Why or why not?
- The name LORD carries a divine meaning, but it also carries a meaning of "Master", "Boss", "Ruler", and "Leader" in all areas. Is it difficult or easy for you to see Jesus as LORD over all? Are there some things or situations that are easier than others to submit to Him?



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2023  
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- How can surrendering to Jesus as LORD over all impact your relationship with Him? Please share if you have personal examples.
- Describe what "Jesus is the only name that saves" means to you.

#### We Believe Jesus Is LORD Over Me

- Have you allowed the LORD room to speak into every aspect of your life? If so, how? If not, why not?
- Do you ever find yourself abusing God's grace?
- If someone asked you, "Who Is Jesus?" What would you say?
- What do you do when you don't see things going the way you hoped or maybe don't see God moving? Do you stay true and trust that God will take care of it or do you try to take matters into your own hands? Please share.



# ACT ON IT



## ENCOURAGE

The world encourages people to come up with the image of Jesus that they are most comfortable with. People are told to pick and choose the parts about Jesus that they like and discard what they don't. So many ideas of Jesus exist, and they couldn't be further from the truth. But as Christians, we know the truth. We know that Jesus is God forever. Scriptures shows us that Jesus was God from the beginning, as He walked the earth, and will be forever more. Jesus is LORD of all. He's Lord over everything: Our church, Heaven, your company, over all creation. And most importantly, Jesus is Lord over us individually. Jesus died to be Lord over us, and He wants to be Lord over each of us. So many people need to hear this. Who are you going to share it with?



## ASK

Who is Jesus to you? Does who you say Jesus is, match who he says he is? What false or incomplete images of Jesus do you need to let go? Where does Jesus want to be LORD in your life? What's holding you back?



## CHALLENGE

Reflect on Matthew 15:16 this week. If Jesus asked you, "Who do you say I am? How would you answer it? Make a list of things you've given to the Lord and the things you're still holding onto. Choose one of those things to submit to God this week.

## PRAYER

Jesus, we invite you to be LORD of our lives! You are powerful and eternal over everything. You paid for the sins of our whole world. You conquered death. You are Lord over all, and we receive You as Lord over us. Transform us as we submit our whole lives to our Risen Savior. Forgive us. Help us to have a heart posture to believe and have faith that Your Word is true and that You will always take care of us. Thank you for being a wonderful and loving Father, our Prince of Peace, our Joy in the chaos, and our Comforter in times of need. We love you, we thank you! In Jesus name, AMEN!



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

**THE BIBLE IS TRUE**

Speaker: Pastor Dino Rizzo, ARC Churches

**ICEBREAKER**

When is it appropriate to start decorating for fall?

## Introduction

- We keep getting encouraged to join a small group. Why? What's the attitude you should have when you go?
- When you are seeking truth about a situation in your life, where is the first place you look for answers?

## The Bible is True Because God is Truth

- Proverbs 30:5 reads, "Every word of God proves..." Share when you realized the Bible was true.
- Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. The Bible is intended by God to be used for teaching, for reproof for correction, and for training in righteousness. When was the last time you used it for this purpose in your life?
- How often do you read your Bible, and why do you read it?
- Do you look at the Bible as a place of truth for your life? Why or why not?

## The Bible is True Because It is Scientifically Verifiable

- Do you struggle to connect history and science to the Bible? Why or why not?
- The Bible contains facts, people, places, and events that have proven to be verifiable. What do you think about that?
- Is the Bible still true today? How do you cope when you do not agree or understand something in the bible?



WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

## THE BIBLE IS TRUE

Speaker: Pastor Dino Rizzo, ARC Churches

- Are you more interested in YOUR opinion on something or what God has to say about it? Why?

### The Bible is True Because It is Authoritative

- Hebrews 4:12 reads, "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. What does this mean to you?"
- Share a time when you were in God's Word and found conviction in something you read. How did God's Word discern the thoughts and intentions of your heart?
- Pastor Dino shared in the Sunday sermon that the right mirror will always have the right reflection. But a wrong mirror will give you the wrong reflection. The Word of God is essential to our spiritual formation and what we're showing the world. What/who are you reflecting? What screens are shaping your reflection of yourself?
- How do you stand firm in God's Word when things are not going the way you want them?



# ACT ON IT



## ENCOURAGE

We believe the Bible is true because God is truth, it's scientifically and historically verifiable, and it is the authoritative rule of our lives. The Bible is truth determined by the One who is Truth. Every word of God proves true. The Bible isn't compiled with a bunch of make-believe stories, there is historical proof! The Bible contains scientific evidence and historical events witnessed by people first-hand. Most importantly, we believe the Bible because it is the guide to how we live our lives. The Word of God is an essential part of our spiritual formation. All scripture is breathed out by God and it's living and active. The Word is God. So how will you receive it?



## ASK

What have you thought of the Bible up until now? Does it bring conviction in your life? Are your actions a reflection of what you hear and read from the Bible? Would others say you reflect the Word?



## CHALLENGE

See the truth by reading and studying God's Word. Open your Bible this week and read. Review God's Word over and over again. Look at new versions of the same section of text and take notes. Reflect on God's Word. Read it out loud and then think about what God's saying to you. Don't let seven days pass by where you don't open the Bible!

## PRAYER

Lord, thank You for providing us with Your truth. Thank You for Your Word. Thank You that we don't have to doubt it because You are truth. Thank You for the growth and spiritual formation we get to experience because of Your Word. Help us desire to go deeper in Your Word, to read it more, review it more, and reflect it more. Open our eyes to new things as we read. Help us to approach the word with a spirit of humility and teachability. Make us both hearers and doers of Your Word. We know that we are the truest reflections of ourselves when we're immersed in Your Word. We thank You and we praise You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.