

the  Venues
Go Deep

“Maybe it Doesn’t Mean What I Think It Means”

9.9.18

When was the last time someone told you they were “pleased” with you or what you did?

“What is the most embarrassing thing your child has said” was asked by a writer. Here’s one of the responses:
*“My then 4 year old used to tell people I was a virgin. I kept having to tell people I was a “vegetarian!”
Finally, she would say “vegetation” and I just would let it be.”*

Kids often misunderstand words and concepts. So do adults. We’re talking about some of those in our new series: “Maybe It Doesn’t Mean What I Think It Means.”

What religious words or concepts cause you confusion?

How has your theology - understanding of God and spiritual things - changed?

Read this quote from Oswald Chambers book, “My Utmost for His Highest?” “People pour themselves into their own doctrines, and God has to blast them out of their preconceived ideas before they can become devoted to Jesus Christ.”

What feeling do you have as you read that?

Read Matthew 4:18

What comes to your mind with the word “repent?”

The Greek word literally is translated, “Change your mind.” “Change how you think.”

How does “Change how you think” differ from how we usually define and understand “repent?”

Jesus calls us to change how we think about things. Let’s think about what we think about baptism.

What is your understanding of baptism?

Read Matthew 3:13-17

Why do you think John the Baptist hesitated to baptize Jesus? Does Mark 1:4 help find the answer?

If baptism is for forgiveness of sin, why was Jesus baptized? Is it possible Jesus reframed baptism?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:2.

How is “baptism” used here to describe the relationship between Moses and the children of Israel?

Read Romans 6:4

How is “baptism” used here to describe our relationship with Jesus?

The key word is “Identification.” Baptism is an identification with Jesus.

What does our life look like if we identify with Jesus?

Read 1 John 2:6. *Imagine being covered by, immersed in, filled with the life of Jesus. See yourself all day this way!*