

We Believe, We Practice

This morning we are kicking off a new series titled, “We Believe, We Practice.” Each Sunday, we are going to be looking at something core to our beliefs as Christians and how believing in it should influence what we do. There’s a quote by Karl Rahner that speaks directly to this problem, “The number one cause of atheism is Christians. Those who proclaim him with their mouths and deny him with their actions is what an unbelieving world finds unbelievable.” Here’s another way to look at it, what you do is the evidence for what you actually believe. So what is your life showing others that you believe?

The Elephant in Scripture (James 2 vs. Romans 4)

- Paul and James are actually addressing two _____ issues.
- Paul is addressing the _____.
- He is arguing against the misguided attempt to become righteous through our _____, placing faith in _____.
- For Paul, faith and obedience (_____) can not be separated from one another.

The Truth of the Matter

- Faith is the _____ upon _____.
- The demonstration of faith is not a striving toward salvation or righteousness, but the _____ of the gift already _____.
- We _____ because of what has already _____ for us.

The Elephant in the Room

- Is _____ evidence of your faith in God?
- It’s not just our _____ that can deny God, but also our _____.
- What do you _____ in _____?

Ephesians 2:8-10

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast. **10** For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

God gives and by faith we receive. And by faith we take that gift and we get to work. Let’s get to work church. We believe and so we practice. There is good that you know to do. You have already seen it. For many of you, he has a name. You already know who needs to be served, to be loved. You know who she is. You know where they are. Let’s get to work church. May our faith be evident. May people who come to know us, come to know who we truly believe in by what we do and not just what we say.