

Title: Do You Want to Leave Jesus?

Scripture: John 6:66-71

Speaker: Vic Redding

Event: Sunday Morning Service

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John 6:66-71 "From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve."

You can't separate the word from Jesus, and you can't separate Jesus from the word. They are one and they are identical. If we say it can't be separate, what can we see in them?

- 1. Both are holy
- 2. Both are truth
- 3. Both are light
- 4. Both are life
- 5. Both produce new birth
- 6. Both are eternal
- 7. Both are the power of God

Looking at verse 67, we see that being a disciple of Christ is demanding. Jesus asked "Will ye also go away?" After Jesus made certain statements, many stopped following Him. Why did they come to Him and then stop following Him?

- 1. Once they realized that Jesus wasn't going to establish an earthly kingdom in Rome, they stopped believing.
- 2. Others stopped because they realized they weren't going to get food every day.
- 3. The reason why they left him was because they realized that in following Jesus, he was calling and expecting people to have a genuine commitment.

When Jesus realized that people were leaving him, he asked the disciples this very strong question. Peter answered and said "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." The current generation of Christians is full of those who proclaim to be of Christ but their actions reflect a different choice. Living for Christ isn't easy, but that isn't any reason for us to stop following him. When confronted with the question, *Will ye also go away?*, here are some answers to give:

Answers to give when asked "Will ye also go away?"

- 1. No because Jesus exceeds all others
 - a. Jesus exceeds all others because there is none like him
 - b. Jesus exceeds all others with his love he has for us
 - c. Jesus exceeds all others in his willingness to help
- 2. No because Jesus alone gives eternal life
 - a. Romans 6:28 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
 - b. We are no longer separated from God. Romans 5:8-10 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."
 - c. Because we have eternal life, we have forgiveness of our sins. Ephesians 1:7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"
 - d. Eternal life means person's life has been changed. II Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

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3. No because Jesus is the son of God

Peter said in verse 69 "*and we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.*"

- a. Being the Son of God, he can personally be known. I John 1:3 "*That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*" Do you know him?
- b. Being the Son of God, he can be loved. I John 4:19 "*We love him, because he first loved us.*" Do you love him? Jesus asked Peter this question three different times.
- c. Being the Son of God, he can be trusted. John 14:1 "*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.*" Do you trust him?