

WILL THE REAL YOU SPEAK UP!

Part 2

SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ABOUT YOURSELF?

- The question posed to John the Baptist (***John 1:19-23 ESV***)
 1. Who are you?
 2. John knew who he was not
- What do you say about yourself?
 1. John gave them a Scripture
- A similar question is posed to us today: Who are you?
 1. What do you say about yourself / how do you identify yourself? (***1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ESV***)
 2. Or by what Jesus has done for you?

THE IMPORTANCE OF SPEAKING WHAT GOD HAS SAID

- How you were saved (***Romans 10:6-10 ESV***)
 1. We are not trying to bring Jesus on the scene
 2. God's Word is near
 3. By believing and confessing, salvation came to you
 4. By believing and confessing, spiritual truths become real to you

WORDS MATTER

- Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people (***Luke 1:5-7 ESV***)
 1. He was a priest, and she was from a priest's family
 2. Both righteous before God - not a phrase you see in a couple
 3. Could not have children because of Elizabeth, and both were advanced in years
- Zechariah gets some good news (***Luke 1:8-14 ESV***)
 1. Their prayers were heard, and Elizabeth would have a baby
 2. The baby, John, would be great in the sight of the Lord
- Zechariah gives the wrong response (***Luke 1:18-20 ESV***)
 1. How shall I know this?
 2. Gabriel wasn't having it - Sent from God with this good news
- The silent treatment imposed on Zechariah was not punitive; it was preventive
 1. The birth of John had to take place, and Zechariah would have hindered the plan (***Proverbs 18:21 ESV***)
 2. Nine months of silence got through to Zechariah (***Luke 1:57-64 ESV***)
- For many of us, the silent treatment is a step in the right direction
 1. If you can't agree with God, at least don't voice your doubts/feelings