



Discussion Questions • Abbotsford

Title of Sermon: How to Contend

Passage: Jude 20-23 NIV

Intro -

1. How dangerous is false teaching, really? If you once believed in the “faith once entrusted to the saints” (Jude 3), can you turn away from that faith and still be a Christian? Why or why not?
2. Is there a difference between how God will treat those who teach false doctrine and those who believe it?

Sermon Points -

1. How to contend for our own faith...
 - a. In Jude 1, we are told that Christians are those who are “kept” in the love of God, but in Jude 21, we are urged to “keep ourselves” in the love of God. What gives? Which is it? How can these work together?
 - b. What does Jude 20-21 say will help us to keep ourselves in the love of God?
 - c. Describe some examples of things that you currently do or could do to “build yourselves up in your most holy faith.”
 - d. Why are so many Christians so biblically illiterate? What forces in our culture and in our churches are making it so we aren’t as involved in learning about who God is and what he is like from Scripture?
 - e. What is your best advice for new believers regarding prayer? What has helped you pray? What stops you praying? How important is prayer to you?
 - f. Why do so many Christians give up following sound doctrine before they go to be with Jesus? Why do they stop running the race diligently before the race is done?
2. How to contend for the faith of others...
 - a. Why do we often fail to show mercy on those who are doubting or flirting in some way with false doctrine? Do you think it is the habit of the church to quickly shun those who question or doubt or do you think that those struggling with doubt have freedom to investigate those thoughts without threat of shame in the church? What would help us be more “merciful” to doubters?
 - b. What factors stop us from proactively “snatching” some from the fire of false teaching? Why do we hesitate to engage when we see our friends in danger? Should we act differently? Why or why not?



- c. What are we supposed to “fear” when we engage with false teachers themselves and try to convince them to turn away from their false teaching? When should we avoid engaging false teachers due to this “fear”?
- d. How can we pray for false teachers and those who are caught in their lies? Why is prayer for these folks something we often neglect?

Wrap Up and Prayer

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

Benediction - Jude 24-25 NIV

"Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."