**“Why before What”**

July 31st, 2016

You’ve probably heard the expression, “Don’t put the cart before the horse.” While in a literal sense the house *could probably* push a cart (if the horse wanted to of course), the expression means don’t do something in the reverse order than is best. Don’t build a house before it’s foundation is laid, don’t build a cabinet without a plan, don’t eat dessert before dinner…ok maybe not that last one sometimes…

Have you ever done something and wondered why you’re doing it? Not what you’re doing, but why you’re doing it? I remember being asked to help with an event in high school, & my job was to look for anyone who needed help. I was only tasked for an hour, and my hour was the lunch hour. I literally walked around a large room for an hour looking for anyone who needed help…eating I suppose. I left and wondered just why I had been there, and was particularly perturbed that I’d spent an hour of a Saturday “helping.” There are probably a few things that come to your mind in which you could describe the what, but not necessarily the why.

Too often this can happen in the church; not just when we assemble or plan events, but in our own personal walks with Christ. Many Christians can shout out whats (Bible reading, praying, assembly, fellowship, serving) but I wonder if we could answer the whys: why do we assemble? Why do we have events like Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner? Why do we read our Bible? Why do we have class? Why do we trust Jesus?

For the next few months the bulletin articles will be discussing the whys of Christianity leading into our Sept/Oct “Why?” sermon series. I invite you though to ask yourself the “why” questions, and discuss with each other why you have the answers you do. Let me know too! Grace to you.

**The Power of a Death –** July 31st, 2016

It is possible to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ yet still \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What made Noah different?

What made Jesus different?

What makes you different?

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| August Sermon Series:  Philippians  Aug 7th - Phil.1: Worthy  Aug. 14th – Phil.2: Offering  Aug. 21st – Phil. 3: Becoming  Aug. 28th – Phil. 4: Content | September/October Sermon Series: “Why?”  Sept 4th – Why I’m not an Atheist    Sept 11th – Why God Can Be Trusted  Sept 18th – Area Preacher Swap  Sept 25th – Why We Assemble  Oct 2nd – Why I’m Here  Oct 9th – Why Faith Works  Oct 16th – Why Love Matters  Oct 23rd – Why Jesus’ Resurrection is True  Oct 30th – Why Not Other Religions |

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