

Part I: (Re)Start your Faith

Sermon Big Idea

At the start of a new year, we often make decisions about what we want to change in our lives. But we all know that change is hard. Whenever we try to change, we're living in the tension between the momentum of our current lives to stay the same, and the pull toward what we want to do or become. Change is managing this tension.

We're starting this series, by talking about what pulls us toward making a change in our faith. Maybe it's time to start or re-start a journey of faith?

Discussion Questions

- 1. Did you make a New Year's resolution? How is it going for you?
- 2. Pastor Brian shared a theory that we often make resolutions to excuse our future behaviour, saying we will change in the future. Do you agree or disagree with this theory? Why?
- 3. When Jesus interacted with people, he engaged with their questions, and used them as a starting point to teach people about God and what God is doing. Why is it so important to engage with the real questions people have about faith? How can we do a better job of this?
- 4. Read John 3:1-6. What stands out to you in this conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus?
- 5. Read John 3:7-17. Nicodemus is stuck in a literal frame of understanding, how does Jesus try to lead Nicodemus out of his literal & Pharisee based understanding of scripture?
- 6. Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-17. What stands out to you in this passage?
- 7. Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-21. What is the implication of this passage for how we live our faith today?
- 8. Why is it so hard to admit that we may have been wrong or incorrect in our understanding of God? Have you ever had a time when what you believed about Jesus needed to be adjusted or corrected?
- 9. Is there an area of your faith that could grow if you were to peel back the layers and "restart" your faith? What is your first step to do this?

Scripture Passages

John 3:1-6, 16-17 Nicodemus, a religious leader and pharisee comes to Jesus at night with questions to ask.

2 Corinthians 5:14-17
Paul writes to the church of
Corinth about accepting the new
life we have in Christ and how it
changes us.

