

Session 4: From Crowd To Core

Overview: This Sunday we continued in our talk - "Shallow Christianity" Pastor Dave challenged us not to stay in the crowd but to become a part of the core in following Jesus. The same crowd that praised Jesus with "Hosanna" later turned on Him to be crucified when He did not meet their expectations of the savior they thought He was to be, showing how shallow faith can fall away when life gets hard or doesn't go our way. Jesus loved the crowds but He did not call us as followers of Jesus to stay in the crowd, He called us to a deeper devotion and faith. Crowds are where we start, but not where we stay. As followers of Jesus when we are the core, the core is what God will use to bring fruit.

Key Scripture:

- **Matthew 27:28-31**
- **Matthew 21:9**
- **Matthew 27:22**
- **John 18:35-37**
- **Matthew 21:1-11**
- **Matthew 27:11-26**

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think people are drawn to Jesus when He meets our expectations, but struggle or fall away when He doesn't?
2. What does it practically look like for you to move from being part of the crowd to becoming part of the core in your walk with Christ?
3. Have you ever had a moment when your faith was challenged by church hurt, other believers or culture? How did that affect your relationship with Jesus?
4. **2 Corinthians 4:7** says "But we have this treasure in jars of clay" How does this verse help us understand why God chooses to carry His perfect message through imperfect people?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you that you call us higher in love to move from the crowd to the core in truth and love, when things don't go our way or expectations aren't met the way we think they should be, help us not to run from faith but to run towards you Jesus knowing that your plans and ways are greater, Lord would you give us the strength us to remain in the core when things are hard, allowing it to produce fruit that will glorify you Jesus, in Jesus name we pray, Amen.

