

Discovering the Real Face of Jesus

Matthew 21:33-43

Main idea: To help the audience gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus truly was, by letting go of false ideas or misconceptions and aligning their beliefs with the truth revealed in Scripture.

Topic: Discover the Real Face of Jesus

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon:

1. Explore the concept of the "real face of Jesus" by delving into the historical context and cultural understanding of Jesus during his time. This can help your audience gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus truly was. You can refer to passages such as Matthew 16:13-17, where Jesus asks his disciples who people say he is, and Peter responds with the revelation that Jesus is the Messiah.
2. Discuss the importance of recognizing and letting go of false ideas or misconceptions about God and Jesus. Emphasize the need to align our beliefs with the truth revealed in Scripture. Consider incorporating passages like John 14:6, where Jesus declares himself as the way, the truth, and the life.
3. Highlight examples from history when Christianity has undergone shifts in understanding Jesus. For instance, you can discuss the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, which clarified the divinity of Jesus and solidified the Nicene Creed. This historical event can serve as an illustration of how the Church has sought to discern and uphold the true nature of Jesus.

4. Connect your sermon to the parable of the tenants in Matthew 21:33-43. Explore the symbolism within the parable and draw parallels to the need for us to "kill the Son in us," representing our false ideas about God and Jesus. Consider incorporating other parables or teachings of Jesus that reinforce this message, such as the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:1-23) or the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32).

5. Provide practical suggestions for your listeners to actively engage in discovering the real face of Jesus. Encourage them to study Scripture, engage in prayer and meditation, seek guidance from trusted spiritual mentors, and participate in community discussions or Bible studies.

Language suggestions from original languages:

1. In Matthew 21:33-43, the Greek word "huios" is used for "Son." This word emphasizes the relationship of Jesus as the Son of God. You can highlight the significance of this term and its implications for our understanding of Jesus' divinity.

2. Consider exploring the Hebrew word "Messiah" (Mashiach) and its meaning in relation to Jesus. This can provide a deeper understanding of Jesus' role as the anointed one, fulfilling Old Testament prophecies.

Additional supporting Scripture verses:

1. John 1:14 - "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." This verse emphasizes the incarnation of Jesus and his embodiment of truth.

2. Colossians 1:15-20 - This passage highlights the supremacy and preeminence of Jesus, emphasizing his role in creation and redemption. It supports the idea of discovering the real face of Jesus by recognizing his divine nature.

Remember to weave these additional verses and language suggestions into your sermon in a way that reinforces your current ideas and supports your main point.