

1. Verse 30 says “As He spoke these words, many believed in Him”. However, verses 46 and 47 reveal that not all of these were true believers.

How can someone “believe in Him” but not be a true believer?

When you consider these false believers in light of the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-9), which type do you think they were, and why?

How can you make sure that your faith is not just temporary emotions?

2. Jesus declared that true faith is demonstrated by abiding in His word. In practical terms, what does it mean to abide in Jesus’ word? (see also John 15:1-8)

3. In verse 33, the Jews claim that they had never been slaves to anyone. However, they were currently enslaved to Rome, and previously enslaved to ten other nations. And they were also enslaved to sin.

What causes a person to have an unrealistic assessment of his or her life?

How can you protect yourself from viewing your life in an unrealistic way?

4. According to verses 43-44, Jesus proclaims that a person has actually has a choice whether to understand His words. According to Jesus, what drives a person to not understand His words?

5. In verse 44, Jesus proclaims that Satan is a murderer and the father of all lies. Give some actual examples of how Satan kills people and lies to them in today’s culture.

6. In verse 49, Jesus denied that He had a demon, but He did not deny being a Samaritan even though he was not. What valuable lesson can you learn from this?