



Believing is Becoming | Doug Wekenman | 1.22.23

### Weekly Study

#### SHARE

This week Doug continued our series “The Future You” by reminding us that we are all in the process of becoming. That the “future you” are simply in the thoughts, beliefs, prayers and decisions as we navigate the direction we are headed. Remember, we will get to where we are going to and as Shawn said last week, it all requires small steps. As a church we have been invited into a 21 Day fast and as a group we are invited to do this together. If you have not started the fast, jump right in, there’s no better time than now!

Before we jump into the study, take some time to check in with your group and ask the following questions:

- **What has been the most difficult thing about your fast? Most impactful?**
- **Share one thing that God has been speaking to you during these last few weeks?**

#### GROW

**Read Galatians 2:20; Proverbs 23:7**

As Doug said this week, the thoughts we believe will determine the person we become, and therefore it is so important to truly believe in who Jesus says he is and in who he says we are. So, if the thoughts we believe will determine the person we will become, what do we have to believe in order to become the person we ultimately want to be? Once we decide what we believe about God, we will also need to decide what we believe God believes about us. It is so important to decide what we believe about the power of the amazing grace of Jesus. God's Word says that we are "crucified in Christ and that me no longer lives. The old is gone, the new is here!" That's a former life and you're a new creation! We are his and he is ours (Psalm 100:3).

**What do you believe about God?**

**What do you believe God believes about you?**

**How does your belief about these questions transform the way you live out your life?**

**M O V E**

**Read 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 12:2**

*There is a person in Christ you already are positionally, and now, you're learning to live like it practically.* Jesus gives us a new identity in order to change what we believe about ourselves because remember, believing is becoming. Doug reminded us of that this week, our actions flow from our identity and our behavior flows from belief. God changes who we are. This is who we are in Jesus, the "future you" is in Christ. Therefore, this is what do and even when we fail to live it out, it's still who we are because the completed work on the cross. Our salvation and our identity are solidified in Jesus and Jesus alone.

Doug said something powerful this week as a reminder to us that "there is a true you that you already are. There's a free you that you already are. There's a sober you that you already

are. There is a future you that you already are in Christ Jesus!" And to live this out practically we need supernatural help. We cannot and are not expected to do this alone. The invitation is always, "come to me" (Matthew 11:28). God knows we are made from dust and that we need him. Because of his goodness and his grace, we no longer have to live in the old patterns but are freed up to live this abundant life that Jesus came to give. So today, let's make the decision of what we need to *build* and what God wants us to *bury* in order become the person he desires us to be.

**What beliefs do you need to BUILD in order to become?**

**What beliefs do you need to BURY in order to become?**

### This Week's Challenge

Continue the 21 Day Fast journal located on the website. If you haven't started, there is no better day than today. It's not too late.

As you come to the end of your fast, take some time to sit and reflect on this time that you obediently surrendered to God and thank him for being near. Maybe that is getting away for a quiet walk or writing in a journal. A time of reflection is incredibly beneficial especially closing out something so beneficial in your life.

### P R A Y

Take time to pray together asking God to reveal himself as you all enter this season of a fast. The enemy wants nothing more but to derail, pray against his plans asking God to protect and give strength that only can come through Jesus and Jesus alone.

