

THE FUNDAMENTAL LIST

RECOVERING THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR FAITH

PART 1: HANG ON TO BABY JESUS!

Traditionally, the church hasn't been known for creating a space for asking questions about faith. And when that space isn't provided, many people begin to deconstruct their faith. Why? Because a faith that can't be questioned can't be trusted.

CONNECT

Consider this quote from Karen Armstrong:

"We learned about God at about the same time as we were told about Santa Claus. But while our understanding of the Santa Claus phenomenon evolved and matured, our theology remained somewhat infantile." –Karen Armstrong, *The Case for God*

Would you say this quote is accurate of your experience? Why or why not? How old were you when you began to want a faith of your own?

LEARN

You will watch a shortened version of a message from this series to set up your group discussion. Watch the full message sometime this week as a reminder of what was talked about today.

APPLY

After sharing what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. Have you ever considered walking away from faith either completely, partially, or temporarily? If so, why? If not, why not?
2. Similar to the disciples after Jesus rose from the dead, it takes looking back at different events in our lives to realize that our "God box" was too small. Describe a time in your life when it appeared that God wasn't working, but it turned out that he was actually working in a way you didn't realize.
3. In the video, Andy said that the identity of Jesus organizes and prioritizes everything else. Would you say that your view of Jesus "organizes and prioritizes" everything else in your life? What would change if submitting to Jesus as King became a daily priority?



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BEFORE NEXT TIME

As we discover, or perhaps rediscover, the fundamentals of the Christian faith, it is important to take time to reflect. This week, listen to the full message and pay specific attention to the part where Andy talks about the journey of deconstruction that many people experience. Are there tough questions that you haven't allowed yourself to ask about your faith? Write those down when they come to mind.

PRAY

Take some time to thank God for sending Jesus, our final King. Ask him to take your faith, wherever it may be, and help it grow.

Fundamental #1 Jesus is God's son and our King.

