

“EXPECTATIONS FOR JESUS”

Walking with the Savior #4

March 21, 2021

Matthew 11:1-19

Expectation = A strong belief that something will happen in the future.

1. The danger of expectations: We will miss what is true, real, and authentic!

- **The Expectations of John the Baptist** – *When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples³ to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”* Matthew 11:2-3
- **The Expectations of the People** – *“To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:¹⁷ “We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’*

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ Matthew 11:16-19

2. Look not to your unmet expectations but to the fruit of the life of Jesus. *(Jesus said), “But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”* Matthew 11:19b

Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see:⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Matthew 11:4-5

3. A Demand for Decision and Faithfulness – *Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”* Matthew 11:6

4. A Picture of Incredible Blessing for those who Truly Believe – *Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come.¹⁵ Whoever has ears, let them hear.* Matthew 11:11-15

THE JOURNEY DEVOTIONAL
March 21st, 2021 Week
Discussion Questions from the Sermon

1. What was something you read in the weekly Scripture readings or heard in the sermon that made an impact on you? Explain.
2. Read Matthew 11:1-19 slowly. What questions come to mind? What do you learn about Jesus? What do you learn about being a disciple?
3. Where in this passage do you see examples of expectations? What could happen as a result of these expectations?
4. Share a time when either you or someone you know was disappointed with the Lord because he didn't meet your/their expectations. What was the impact on your/their faith?
5. Read Matthew 11:18-19. What do you think Jesus is saying in these two verses?
6. Read Matthew 11:10. What was the role of John the Baptist? In what ways are you allowing God to use you to prepare the way of the Lord in the lives of others? Be specific.
7. Confess to the Lord expectations you have for him that are not consistent with his purpose for you. How else might you apply the teaching of this passage to your life?

Weekly Bible Memory Verse: *"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."* Matthew 11:18-19

Bible Readings: Reading these passages of Scripture will help you become like Jesus in how you think and what you do, in addition to preparing you for next week's sermon. Remember to read these passages slowly, allowing the Lord to speak to your heart and mind:

Monday – Luke 19:28-40

Tuesday – Luke 19:41-44

Wednesday – Luke 19:45-48

Thursday – Luke 20:1-19

Friday – 1 Chronicles 16:7-22

Saturday – 1 Chronicles 16:23-36

Sunday – Luke 19:28-48