

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: March 31, 2021
Fulfilled - John 12:37-50

1. What does verse 37 say about some people who had seen the signs that Jesus had performed?
 - a. Everybody believed.
 - b. Even afterward, “they” still did not believe.

2. Who is the “they” that John is talking about?
 - a. His disciples.
 - b. The crowd.
 - c. The Jewish leaders who were trying to kill him.
 - d. Everybody!
 - e. Well, not everybody but certainly more than you would have guessed.

3. Why didn’t they believe?
 - a. Umm...I’m not sure, wasn’t it obvious? I’m sure I would have believed! I mean his name was “Jesus” after all!
 - b. Well, John tells us that this happened to fulfill the prophecies of Isaiah.
 - c. Although it is easy to read Isaiah and know that Isaiah also was sent to a people who would not listen to the word of God, John says that Isaiah had seen Jesus’ glory and proclaimed ahead of time that people would not listen.
 - d. Although this text seems to say that God blinded their eyes, the Septuagint (Greek version of OT) said “they closed their own eyes.”
 - e. Some commentaries say that because they would not believe, they could not believe. Unwillingness produces inability. The signs were there, but they still wouldn’t believe.

4. According to verses 42, did everybody refuse to believe?
 - a. No, it says that many (even among the leaders) did believe.
 - b. Some who believed did not acknowledge their faith in public because of the Pharisees and they didn’t want to be put out of the synagogue.

5. What does verse 43 say about those who would not acknowledge their faith? _____

6. Wait, I had just started to feel bad for these folks that were put in a bind and I could kind of feel their pain. Did John just criticize them because of their inappropriate priorities? Yes_____ No_____
Could this same thing be said about us? _____

Are you ever tempted to hide your faith? Yes_____ No_____ Give examples. _____

7. What does Jesus say in verses 47-50?
 - a. If anyone hears his words but does not keep them, he doesn’t judge that person...whew, that’s a relief!!!
 - b. He says there is a judge and anyone who rejects him and doesn’t accept his words will be condemned by those very words on the last day...wait, that doesn’t sound as good as I thought before.
 - c. He says that his words are not his own, but the ones his Father send him to speak.

8. Have you accepted (kept) the words of Jesus? _____
