

Homework

Session 1 - To the Called

1. The letter of Jude begins with, “*Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James...*”

The Greek word for “servant” used in this context is *doulos*, meaning **one who is subservient to, and entirely at the disposal of his master; a slave**. Paul, Timothy, James, Peter also identified themselves as servants - or slaves - of Jesus.

a. Why do you think many of the writers of the NT addressed themselves in this way when writing to the church?

b. What does it reveal about their relationship with Him?

2. In our video discussion, it was pointed out that Jude did not highlight the fact that he was actually related to Jesus. He could have used that fact to his advantage in his letter, but did not, as the Holy Spirit directed his writing. Read 2 Corinthians 5:1, 14-17 and explain how you think Jude may have viewed himself as a new creature in Christ.

3. Judaism and Christianity were anomalies within pagan society. We learned that people were generally suspicious of those who identified with these faiths.

a. Consider our current American culture and your own experience. Have you or any of your Christian family or friends ever been treated differently because of your faith? If so, how?

b. Read John 15:18-21. The word used for “hate” is *miseo*, which means **to hate; to pursue with hatred; to detest**. Now read Ephesians 6:12. How does this kind of hatred operate, and to what or whom is this hatred directed? Why?

4. Verse 3 of Jude exhorts us to “contend earnestly for the faith.” We learned that the word “contend” translated from Greek is a word that means **to struggle, as in fighting a battle**. Given our current cultural climate, what is one way that you can personally contend for the faith in your own sphere of life?

5. Contending for the faith is a charge given to every Christian. Read 2 Timothy 2:15. List three personal actions you have taken, or can take right now, to fulfill this verse.

6. The prophecy of the coming Messiah from Isaiah 9:6 calls Jesus the Prince of Peace. Read Matthew 10:34-36 and Hebrews 4:12,13. What kind of peace did Jesus come to bring? What kind of division did Jesus cause?

7. Proverbs 4:23 in The New Living Translation reads, “*Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.*” In Jude 4 we read that there were/are those who come into the church twisting teachings about God’s grace, thereby denying the reigning lordship of Jesus Christ. How can we practically apply Proverbs 4:23 in order to remain pure in our faith to God?