

What Does It Mean to Believe?

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References: **John 1-6**, John 1:46; John 2:5; John 3:14-15; John 3:16; John 5:6; John 5:8; John 6:35; John 20:30-31

What Does It Mean to Believe?

Welcome back, Winston and Angel. Please turn in your Bibles to the book of John, chapter 20. We sang, "And all who believe, my pardon receive," and then we sang, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."

欢迎 Winston 和 Angel 回来。请大家把圣经翻到约翰福音第20章。我们刚才唱道：“凡相信的，必得蒙赦免”，接着我们又唱道：“当信主耶稣基督”。

So the question that we all ask periodically is: what does it mean to believe? We here at 16th Avenue Gospel Chapel use the word all the time. But what does it imply? What does it mean?

因此，我们常常会问这样一个问题：相信到底是什么意思？我们在第十六街聚会所常常使用这个词。但它暗含着什么？它究竟意味着什么呢？

Back to the verses we refer to often, John 20:30-31. John says:

回到我们经常引用的经文，约翰福音20章30至31节。约翰说：

[John 20:30-31 NKJV]

³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

耶稣在门徒面前另外行了许多神迹，没有记在这书上。但记这些事要叫你们信耶稣是基督，是神的儿子，并且叫你们信了他，就可以因他的名得生命。

If you wanted to know what it means to believe, you would read the Gospel of John, wouldn't you? Because he said, "I wrote this so that you could believe."

如果你想知道什么是相信，你就会去读约翰福音，不是吗？因为约翰说：“我写这些是为了让你们能够相信。”

Chapter 1: Come and See

I went back in my mind to the beginning of the book of John, and I want you to turn to John chapter 1. It is the story of the Lord Jesus Christ at the very beginning, and it tells that many people were talking about Him and many people were questioning Him.

我的思绪回到了约翰福音的开头，请大家翻到约翰福音第1章。这里讲述的是主耶稣基督最初的故事，记载了许多人都在谈论他，也有许多人质疑他。

Philip speaks to Nathanael and says, "We found the Messiah." (Yes, Emily, can you—or Phoebe—can you just check that, please? Oh.) Philip says, "We found the Messiah." Nathanael said, "I'm not sure." And verse 46 ends with a very simple line:

腓力对拿但业说：“我们遇见弥赛亚了。”（Emily 或者 Phoebe，你们能帮忙确认一下吗？哦。）腓力说：“我们遇见弥赛亚了。”拿但业说：“我不能确定。”第46节以一句非常简单的话结尾：

[John 1:46 NKJV] - And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

拿但业对他说：“拿撒勒还能出什么好的吗？”腓力说：“你来看！”

What does the phrase "come and see" imply? It implies that if you believe—if you have got any interest in believing—you are going to start by coming and looking. To believe in the Lord Jesus Christ means to get started. Don't just sit there, Nathanael; come and see!

“你来看”这句话暗示着什么？它暗示着如果你要相信——哪怕你对相信只有一丝兴趣——你都要从“来看”开始。相信主耶稣基督意味着采取行动。拿但业，不要只是坐在那里，来看吧！

And that is what Nathanael did. Immediately the Lord started a conversation with him and told him many things. Where does belief begin? Come and see.

拿但业正是这么做的。主立刻开始与他谈话，并告诉了他许多事情。信心从何开始？你来看。

Chapter 2: Water Turned into Wine

Now in chapter 2, we move to the story of the water being turned into wine, and the Lord Jesus Christ is going to tell people that that is what He wants to do. The key verse in chapter 2 is verse 5:

到了第2章，我们来到水变酒的故事。主耶稣基督要告诉人们，这就是他想要做的事。第2章的关键经文是第5节：

[John 2:5 NKJV] - His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

他母亲对佣人说：“他告诉你们什么，你们就做什么。”

Chapter 1 is "come and see," and chapter 2 tells the story of what would happen if you did come to see. It says He wants to turn the water of your life into wine. In the normal course of things, that takes several months. In the story of John chapter 2, it takes a few minutes. In your life and my life, it is a lifetime experience.

第1章是“来看”，而第2章讲述的是如果你真的来看，将会发生什么。经文表明，他渴望将你生命中的水变成美酒。在自然规律中，酿酒需要好几个月；但在约翰福音第2章的故事里，仅仅用了几分钟；而在你我的人生中，这是一个需要一生去经历的过程。

What it means to believe is to say, "Lord Jesus, I believe. I believe that if I do what You ask, You will turn my water into wine." That will be fulfilled when you get to heaven. But in the meantime, belief says, "I'm going to follow this Jesus. I believe that He can turn my water into real wine. I want that."

相信的意思就是说：“主耶稣，我相信。我相信如果我照着你的吩咐去行，你就会将我生命的水变成酒。”这将在你进入天国时完全实现。但在此刻，信心宣告：“我要跟随这位耶稣。我相信他能把我生命的水变成真正的美酒。我渴慕这个。”

Chapter 3: Lifted Up for Our Salvation

Over the page to story number three: it is all about Nicodemus coming to Jesus and asking questions. Verse 14 is a thrilling verse; it says:

翻过这一页，来到第三个故事：这里记载了尼哥底母夜访耶稣并向他请教。第14至15节是一处震撼人心的经文：

[John 3:14-15 NKJV]

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

摩西在旷野怎样举蛇，人子也必照样被举起来，叫一切信他的都得永生。

What does it mean to believe? If you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will end up having an experience similar to what happened to the children of Israel in the wilderness in Moses' day. You may remember that story; it is very simple. The children of Israel had sinned. They rebelled against the Lord, and He was very distressed. He sent snakes among them to bite them, and many of them died because of snake bites. So they cried to the Lord and said, "Lord, could You help us? Can You do something?"

相信是什么意思？如果你相信主耶稣基督，你就会拥有一段与摩西时代以色列人在旷野中所经历的极其相似的体验。你们可能记得那个故事，情节很简单：以色列人犯了罪，他们悖逆耶和华，主非常痛心。神差遣火蛇进入百姓中间咬他们，许多人因此死去。于是他们向主呼求说：“主啊，你能帮助我们吗？你能为我们做点什么吗？”

The Lord said, "Moses, you make a bronze snake—a snake made out of bronze—and you put it on a pole. Anyone who looks at that pole will be cured from their snake bite." He probably put it high on a pole and lifted it up high so that people in the camp could look up and see the snake on the pole. Those who looked saw that their snake bite was healed; they lived. Others died.

主对摩西说：“摩西，你做一条铜蛇挂在杆子上；凡被蛇咬的，一望这杆子就必得活。”摩西很可能把它高高地挂在杆子上举起，好让营中各处的人都能抬头望见。凡仰望的人，蛇伤就得了医治，得以存活；而不去仰望的人都死了。

What does it mean to believe? It means to say, "Lord, I have got a problem. I am a sinner, and I am going to die. I want my sin forgiven." When they looked to the serpent on the pole, they were healed of their snake bite. Jesus says, "If you look to Me, you will be healed from your sin."

相信是什么意思？意思是承认说：“主啊，我有一个致命的问题。我是个罪人，我必死无疑。我渴望我的罪得赦免。”当年他们仰望杆子上的铜蛇，伤势就得了痊愈；耶稣说：“只要你仰望我，你的罪就必得医治。”

What is meant here? Verse 16:

这里更深层的含义是什么？看第16节：

[John 3:16 NKJV] - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

神爱世人，甚至将他的独生子赐给他们，叫一切信他的，不至灭亡，反得永生。

What is implied in believing? Number one: you come and see. When you meet Jesus, you are told that if you obey Him, He will turn your water into wine. Whatever He says, do it! Belief says, "I want that; that is what I am going to do."

“相信”包含了什么？第一，你来看。当你遇见耶稣时，他告诉你只要顺服他，他就会把你的水变成酒。无论他说什么，照着去做！信心便回应说：“我渴求这个，这正是我要做的。”

Then the issue arises: what about your sin? How is your sin going to be forgiven? You say, "I want my sin forgiven." If Jesus is going to forgive my sin just the same way as the Israelites were forgiven for their sin of turning away from the Lord, all I have to do is look to Jesus! That is what I am going to do. I am going to look and see Him on the cross, and I am going to say, "Jesus, You died for me. Thank You."

随后问题来了：你的罪怎么办？你的罪怎样才能蒙赦免？你说：“我渴望我的罪得赦免。”如果耶稣赦免我的罪，就像当年以色列人离弃神的罪得赦免一样，那么我所要做的就是仰望耶稣！这就是我决意要做的事。我要仰望十字架上的他，并对他说：“主耶稣，你为我死了，谢谢你。”

Chapter 4: The Woman at the Well

What does it mean to believe in Jesus? In John chapter 4, you get the story of the woman at the well, and she had a long conversation with Jesus. Would you like a long conversation with Jesus? If you believe Him, you are going to say, "Yes, that is what I would like."

相信耶稣意味着什么？在约翰福音第4章中，记载了井旁妇人的故事，她与耶稣展开了一场长谈。你渴望与耶稣进行深入的长谈吗？如果你相信他，你必会说：“是的，这正是我所渴慕的。”

Have you ever noticed that most people don't want a long conversation about Jesus? I remember the day that I was down on Granville Island telling people about Jesus. There were a number of people sitting around a table about this size. I said to each one of them as I went around the table, "Are you interested?" I handed them a little tract and asked, "Are you interested in spiritual things?" They said, "No." To the next person I said, "Are you

interested?" "No." I went all around the table, spoke to about six or eight people, and they all said no.

你是否注意到，大多数人其实并不愿意长时间谈论耶稣？我记得有一天我在格兰佛岛向人传讲耶稣。有几个人正围坐在一张差不多这么大的桌子旁。我绕着桌子问每一个人：“你感兴趣吗？”我递给他们福音单张，问：“你对属灵的事感兴趣吗？”他们回答：“没兴趣。”我问下一个人：“你感兴趣吗？”“不感兴趣。”我绕着整张桌子问了大约六到八个人，他们都拒绝了。

When I got to the very end of the table, I said to one man, "Are you interested?" He said, "Yes." So I said, "Well, I'll tell you a little bit about Jesus." What do you think everybody else at the table did? Do you think they all got up and walked away? Or do you think maybe some of them sat and listened to every word I said? I thought that was very interesting: none of them were prepared to listen on their own, but they were all prepared to listen in a general sense.

当我走到桌子的另一端，我问最后一位男士：“你感兴趣吗？”他说：“感兴趣。”我说：“那我来跟你谈谈耶稣。”你以为桌上的其他人会有什么反应？你以为他们都会起身离开吗？还是说他们就坐在那里，凝神听着我说的每一个字？我觉得这极其耐人寻味：他们没有一个人愿意独自聆听，但当有人在听时，大家都愿意在一旁旁听。

This woman didn't have much option. Jesus was sitting right at the well, and she wanted a drink. There was no way you were going to get that water out of the well unless you talked to Jesus. You remember this woman had had five husbands, and she was living with number six. The Lord Jesus was talking to her, and then He said, "Go, call your husband!" What did she say? What would most people say? "I have got to go now; bye-bye."

而井旁的这位妇人当时没有太多选择。耶稣就坐在井边，而她需要打水喝。如果不与耶稣打交道，她根本无法打上水来。你们记得这位妇人曾有过五个丈夫，当时与第六个住在一起。主耶稣与她交谈，忽然对她说：“你去叫你丈夫也到这里来！”她怎么回答？多数人会怎么说？“我得走了，再见。”

Did she want to talk about all those failed marriages she had had? If you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are going to let Him talk to you about those secret things in your life. Some people say, "I don't want that," and they turn away and say, "Don't You interfere, Jesus! Don't You interfere with my life!" Believing in Jesus implies that you are willing to let Him talk to you about those very difficult issues in your life—those places where you weren't a success, where you were a failure.

她难道愿意揭开自己所有失败婚姻的伤疤吗？如果你真信主耶稣基督，你就会允许他触碰并过问你生命中那些隐秘的事。有人会抗拒说：“我不要这样”，他们转身走开说：“耶稣，你少管闲事！不要干涉我的私生

活！”但信耶稣意味着你甘愿让他向你生命中极难启齿的问题说话——直面那些你毫无建树、一败涂地的过往。

So what does it mean to believe? It means come and see. It means saying, "I want my water turned to wine." It means, "I want my sins forgiven, and I'm even prepared to let Jesus tell me what those sins are and let Him deal with them."

因此，相信意味着什么？意味着“来看”。意味着承认：“我盼望我的水能变为酒。”意味着：“我渴求罪得赦免，我甚至预备好让耶稣向我指出隐秘的罪，并全权由他来对付解决。”

Chapter 5: Rise, Take Up Your Bed and Walk

What does it mean to believe in Jesus? Chapter 5. You remember the story I mentioned earlier this morning: the man at the Pool of Bethesda lying there, having been there for about 38 years, unable to move—an invalid, a cripple. The statement comes at the end of verse 6:

相信耶稣还意味着什么？来看第5章。大家记得我今晨讲过的那个故事：在毕士大池旁躺着一个人，他在那里已经躺了大约38年，丝毫动弹不得——一个瘫痪残疾的人。在第6节的末尾提出了一个问题：

[John 5:6 NKJV] - When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

耶稣看见他躺着，知道他病了许久，就问他说：“你要痊愈吗？”

Belief says, "**Yes!**" That is a crucial issue in the lives of many: do you want to be made well? The answer of faith is: "Yes, by God's grace, I want to be made well." As we mentioned this morning, if you are made well, you move from the position of being irresponsible and incapable to the position of being active and responsible; instead of being a receiver, you become a supplier. Many people in life would rather lie there and do nothing than be healed and take responsibility to bring forth fruit in their lives.

信心断然回答：“**要！**”这是许多人生命中至关重要的转折点：你想要痊愈吗？信心的答复是：“是的，靠着神的恩典，我要痊愈。”正如我们早晨所分享的，若你得痊愈，你就必然从毫无责任能力、被动瘫痪的状态，进入到积极行动、承担责任的地位；你不再单单是一个索取者，而是成为了一个供应者。然而世上有许多人宁愿瘫坐原地无所作为，也不愿得着医治并在生命中承担结出果子的责任。

So what does it mean to believe? It means verse 8:

那么相信到底意味着什么？就是第8节：

[John 5:8 NKJV] - Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

耶稣对他说：“起来，拿你的褥子走吧！”

If you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are going to start doing things.

如果你相信主耶稣基督，你就要开始行动起来做工。

Chapter 6: The Bread of Life

Chapter 6, verse 35 is a wonderful verse:

第6章第35节是一处奇妙的经文：

[John 6:35 NKJV] - And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

耶稣说：“我就是生命的粮。到我这里来的，必定不饿；信我的，永远不渴。”

What does it mean to believe in Him? It means to come to Him. It means to trust Him. And it means to start eating the bread of God and drinking the water of God. What is the bread of God? It is the Bible, isn't it? If you believe Him, then the Bible is what you are going to be eating. If you believe Him, the water of God—which speaks of the Spirit of God—means you are going to depend on Him.

信他意味着什么？意味着来到他面前，意味着信赖他，也意味着开始去吃神的粮、喝神的水。神的粮是什么？就是圣经，不是吗？你若信他，圣经就是你每日汲取的粮食。你若信他，那象征神圣灵的活水，意味着你将完全倚靠他而活。

What do you eat for breakfast? Some people don't eat very much, and other people eat more. Did I tell you about meeting Doug Hepburn on the street? Apparently not. I met Doug Hepburn on the street. Who was Doug Hepburn? He was the strongest man in the world.

你早餐都吃些什么？有人吃得极少，有人吃得丰盛。我跟你们讲过在街上偶遇道格·赫本（Doug Hepburn）的事吗？看来没有。我在街上碰见过道格·赫本。他是谁？他曾是世界上最强壮的大力士。

I met him one day at 28th and Mackenzie, and I drove him in my car to Broadway. I knew who he was, and I was impressed to spend a little time with him. Later, I read an article in a

newspaper about what the strongest man in the world eats for breakfast. If you were to become the strongest man in the world, would you change what you eat for breakfast?

有一天我在第28街和麦肯齐街（Mackenzie）的街口遇见他，我开车载他去了百老汇街（Broadway）。我认得他，能与他相处片刻让我印象深刻。后来，我在报纸上读到一篇文章，专门介绍这位世界上最强壮的人早餐吃什么。如果你想成为举世无双的强人，你会改变你的早餐食谱吗？

Before he had breakfast, he used to drink a quart of milk—about a liter and a quarter. After drinking a quart of milk, for breakfast he used to eat a great big steak. Some of you might eat a small steak for supper; he ate a big steak for breakfast! After his big steak, he always had half a dozen eggs—six eggs for breakfast! After that, he used to have toast and butter—five pieces of toast! Some people have one or two; he had five. After that, sometimes he would have a bowl of soup, or a bowl or two of pudding, and then some more milk to drink.

在进餐前，他习惯先喝下一夸脱牛奶——大约是一升多。喝完一夸脱牛奶后，他的正餐是一大整块牛排。你们有些人可能晚餐才吃一小片牛排，他早餐就消灭一大块牛排！吃完牛排后，他必定还要吃半打鸡蛋——整整六个鸡蛋！接着是涂抹黄油的吐司——足足吃五片！多数人吃一两片，他吃五片。这还没完，之后他有时还要喝一碗汤，吃上一两碗布丁，最后再喝下一大杯牛奶收尾。

Why did he do that? Because he was lifting more weight than anybody in the world could lift. Spiritually, some of us say, "I like to have a piece of toast once a week. I come to church once a week, listen to somebody talk about Jesus for half an hour, and that is very good." Do you think the person who comes to church once a week to hear a sermon is as strong as the person who eats the truth and bread of God all day, every day? If you are going to be strong and big, you have got to eat a lot!

他为何要吃下如此庞大的分量？因为他要举起这世上无人能及的重负。可是在属灵上，我们有些人却满足于说：“我只想一周啃一小片吐司。我每周来聚会一次，花半小时听别人讲讲耶稣，这就很不错了。”你以为一个每周仅来教堂听一次讲道的人，能像那日复一日汲取神真理、饱食神灵粮的人一样健壮有力吗？要在属灵上成长为刚强的勇士，你就必须大量吃下神的话语！

What does it mean to say, "I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ"? It means: "I believe that He is the bread of God, and He is the water of God. I am going to feed on Him. I am going to eat the Bible, eat the Bible, eat the Bible, so that I can live with Jesus. I want to be strong for God."

宣告“我相信主耶稣基督”到底意味着什么？它意味着：“我相信他是神的粮，他是神的水。我要以他为粮。我要读经、吃下圣经、吃下神的话语，与主同行；我要为神变得刚强壮胆。”

Five Marks of True Belief

Sometimes you meet someone on the street and ask, "Do you believe in God?" He says, "Yes." You say, "All right, tell me what your belief implies," and he doesn't have very much to say.

有时你在街上遇到一个人，问他：“你信神吗？”他答道：“信啊。”你接着问：“那好，请告诉我你的信意味着什么？”他往往就哑口无言了。

Let's not kid ourselves. Believing in the Lord Jesus Christ implies:

我们万不可自欺欺人。信靠主耶稣基督意味着：

1. We come to see who He is.
2. We say, "I want You to change my water into wine."
3. We say, "I want You to forgive my sins."
4. Like the woman at the well: "I want You to delve into my life, get right down to those basic sins, and get rid of them."
5. "I want You to give me new life, new purpose, and new work to do. I am prepared to feed on You so much that I can do strong work and good work."

一、我们亲自“来看”，认识他是谁。

二、我们向他祈求：“愿你将我淡泊如水的人生变为醇美的新酒。”

三、我们悔改宣告：“求你赦免我的罪孽。”

四、如同井旁妇人：“求你鉴察剖开我的生命，直面深处顽固的罪根，彻底将它们拔除。”

五、“求你赐给我全新的生命、人生的使命与当行的善工。我甘愿饱尝你的灵粮，使我能为神刚强行事，成就善工。”

Our time has gone. Thank you for your patience. Let's pray:

时间已经用尽了，感谢大家的耐心聆听。让我们同心祷告：

Lord, we pray that You will help us believe. We want to believe the way John wanted us to believe, and the way Jesus wants us to believe. We thank You in Jesus' name for all Your kindness to us. Amen.

主啊，我们祈求你帮助我们真诚地相信。我们要按照使徒约翰所启示的样式去信，照着主耶稣所期盼的方式去信。感谢你向我们所施尽诸般的慈爱，奉耶稣基督的名祷告。阿们。