

King and Messiah Week 22

Read Matthew 16:1-4

Jesus had performed many miraculous signs up to this point. Why do you think the Pharisees and Sadducees were asking for yet another sign?

What sign does Jesus offer them and how will they know he fulfills it? (Matthew 12:38-41)

Read Matthew 16:5-12

What is the significance of Jesus' warning in verse 6? Explain the comparison between 'leaven/bread' to 'teaching/our spiritual life'.

How can we guard our lives against false teaching/corruption? (Philippians 4:8, Ephesians 4:14)

Why do you think the disciples were so slow to perceive what Jesus meant?

If Jesus' closest disciples needed correction, how should that both encourage and challenge us?

Read Matthew 16:13-20

What does Peter's confession tell us about who he believes Jesus to be?

Share a similar moment in your faith life where you had an 'aha' or victorious moment.

Read Matthew 16:21-23

What does Jesus point to as the main problem behind Peter's thinking?

How does this way of thinking impact the way you live?

Read Matthew 16:24-28

How do we reconcile verse 24 with the idea that we are saved by grace?

What does it look like to practically live out denial of self and taking up your cross? Is it a one time event or daily task?

Other observations/questions/reflections on the text: