

S1:E4 The Deconstruction Movement

Today's Topic: Deconstructing Your Faith

- So many Generation Y/Z are in this "deconstruction" phase.
- More and more people are citing church leader abuse (Driscoll, Jeremy Foster, Micah Carter, Darrin Patrick, Tavner Smith, James McDonald, etc.) Not to mention the fallout from the sexual abuse accusations on Ravi Zacharias.
- People are using these tragic events as excuse to depart from the Christian faith altogether.

#1. Why is Deconstruction so Prevalent Right Now?

- Every generation has its societal and cultural phenomena. Some are good and some are not good. Even the good ones will have people who participate just because it's cultural, right? (sexual revolution, Jesus movement of the 70's, women's rights, civil rights, LGBTQ, and the list goes on)
- I love what Tim Keller writes:
Human knowledge has 3 aspects:
 - Rational and Intellectual
 - Experimental and Intuitive
 - Social and Pragmatic
- That means: "We come to know something well when 1) there are good reasons for it, when 2) it fits with our inward experience, and when 3) we find a trustworthy community that holds it, too."
- The way I've come to believe Jesus bodily rose from the dead is: (1) I've looked at the historical evidence which is surprisingly...powerful, (2) I've sensed Jesus' actual presence in my life and on my heart repeatedly over the years in ways I can't explain away, even during stretches when he seems absent, and (3) I've been in many great Christian communities that believed in and lived out Jesus' resurrection in remarkable ways.

2. What did you put your faith in?

- Most people come to Jesus because they believe He will make your life better (Americanized Jesus), NOT because they believe He got up from the grave.
- No hypocritical leader can change that. My faith is not in man's ability to be perfect, but in God's ability to raise him from the dead. (Here in the now and the later).
- We don't view Christianity through the lens of the cross (suffering), we view it through the American Dream.
- People don't want to follow Jesus, they want Jesus to follow them.

#3. Not All Deconstruction is Bad

- Many of us need to deconstruct bad theology, just don't tear down the foundation (Christ as atonement for sin, resurrection, repentance, transformation, Father, Son, Holy Spirit...)
- Many deconstruction movements actually led to revivals over the years (Great Reformation, Bible in English Language--Roman Catholicism, Desert Fathers, etc.)

3 Keys to Victory:

- #1. Build Your Faith on the Right Foundation
- #2. Wrestle with Your Version of Christianity
- #3. Follow the Resurrected Jesus, not the Americanized Jesus