Da han talte sådan, kom mange til tro på ham

4. søndag e. påske, 3. maj 2026 i Gratiakirken ved Den Evangelisk-Lutherske Frikirkes kirkemøde. Pastor Leif G. Jensen

Johannes 8,28-36

Jesus sagde da til dem: "Når I får ophøjet Menneskesønnen, da skal I forstå, at jeg er den, jeg er, og at jeg intet gør af mig selv; men som Faderen har lært mig, sådan taler jeg. Og han, som har sendt mig, er med mig; han har ikke ladt mig alene, for jeg gør altid det, der er godt i hans øjne." Da han talte sådan, kom mange til tro på ham.

Jesus sagde nu til de jøder, som var kommet til tro på ham: "Hvis I bliver i mit ord, er I sandelig mine disciple, og I skal lære sandheden at kende, og sandheden skal gøre jer frie." De svarede ham: "Vi er Abrahams efterkommere og har aldrig trællet for nogen. Hvordan kan du så sige: I skal blive frie?" Jesus svarede dem: "Sandelig, sandelig siger jeg jer: Enhver, som gør synden, er syndens træl. Men trællen bliver ikke i huset for evigt, Sønnen bliver der for evigt. Hvis altså Sønnen får gjort jer frie, skal I være virkelig frie.

1. TROEN

Da kom mange til tro på ham.

Troen er tillid til Gud. Til Jesus, som er Guds Søn og ét med Faderen. Troen er fællesskab med Gud.

Det har Jesus har lært os: Her er nogle eksempler fra Johannes-evangeliet, som helt fra begyndelsen taler om tro. Johannes Døber *kom for at aflægge vidnesbyrd, han skulle vidne om lyset,* ***for at alle skulle komme til tro ved ham.*** *(Joh 1:7). Men alle dem, der tog imod ham, gav han ret til at blive Guds børn, dem,* ***der tror på hans navn;*** *(Joh 1:12) Og ligesom Moses ophøjede slangen i ørkenen, sådan skal Menneskesønnen ophøjes,* ***for at enhver, som tror****, skal have evigt liv i ham. For således elskede Gud verden, at han gav sin*

As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him

4th Sunday after Easter, May 3, 2026 in Gratia church at the annual convention of the Evanglical Lutheran Free Church in Denmark. Pastor Leif G. Jensen

John 8:28-36 NAU

28 So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. 29 "And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him." 30 As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him.

31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." 33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will become free '?" 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. 35 "The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever.
36 "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

1. FAITH

Then many came to believe in him.

Faith is trust in God. To Jesus, who is the Son of God and one with the Father. Faith is fellowship with God.

This is what Jesus has taught us: Here are some from the Gospel of John, from the very beginning talking about faith: John the Baptist *came to bear witness, he was to bear witness to the light,* ***so that all might believe through him.*** *(Jn. 1:7). But to all those who received him, he gave the right to become children of God, to those* ***who believe in his name;*** *(Jn. 1:12) And just as Moses exalted the serpent in*

*enbårne søn, **for at enhver, som tror på ham, ikke skal fortabes, men have evigt liv**. (Joh 3:14-16). Den, der tror på Sønnen, har evigt liv; den, der er ulydig mod Sønnen, skal ikke se livet, men Guds vrede bliver over ham.» (Joh 3:36).* Og evangelisten skriver til sidst: *Dette er skrevet for at I skal tro, at Jesus er Kristus, Guds Søn, og for at I, når I tror, skal have liv i hans navn. ((Joh 20,31).*

Tro på Jesus Kristus er TILLID til ham. Og denne tro giver liv i hans navn, frelse og evigt liv.

Hvordan får vi denne tro?

2. MENS HAN TALTE SÅDAN

Da han talte sådan, kom mange til tro på ham.

Derfor vi vil gerne vide, hvad han fortalte, da de kom til tro troen. For det vil vi også gerne høre. Han sagde: ***"Når I får ophøjet Menneskesønnen, da skal I forstå, at jeg er den, jeg er, og at jeg intet gør af mig selv; men som Faderen har lært mig, sådan taler jeg. Og han, som har sendt mig, er med mig; han har ikke ladt mig alene, for jeg gør altid det, der er godt i hans øjne."***

De skulle ophøje ham. De skulle få ham ophøjet. Og da skulle de forstå, at han er den han er.

De, som kom til tro på ham, forstod ikke alt på dette tidspunkt. Men troen knyttede dem til Jesus. … Senere ville de forstå, forstå hvem han virkelig er. Ja, faktisk at han er JEG ER. Herren. HERREN, som Moses mødte ved tornebusken. HERREN, som frelste Israel fra Egypten. HERREN, som er den gode hyrde. HERREN som er opstandelsen og livet.

Hvornår ville de forstå det? Når de fik Jesus ophøjet, hvad det så end betød. Men Jesus var begyndt at fortælle dem de. Han havde undervist Nikodemus om det: *Og ligesom Moses ophøjede slangen i ørkenen, sådan skal Menneskesønnen ophøjes, for at enhver, som tror, skal have evigt liv i ham. (Joh 3:14-15).*

Og senere fortalte han dem: *Og når jeg er blevet ophøjet fra jorden, vil jeg drage alle til mig.» Det sagde han og betegnede dermed, hvordan han*

*the wilderness, so the Son of man will be exalted, [15] **so that everyone who believes** may have everlasting life in him. 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 (Jn. 3:14-16). He who believes in the Son has eternal life; he who disobeys the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God will be upon him." (Jn. 3:36).* And the evangelist writes at the end: *This is written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that when you believe, you may have life in his name. ((Jn. 20:31).*

Faith in Jesus Christ is TRUST in Him. And this faith gives life to His name, salvation, and eternal life. - How do we acquire this faith?

2. WHILE HE WAS TALKING LIKE THAT

When he spoke thus, many believed in him.

And we want to know what he told us when they got the faith. Because we want to hear that too. He said: ***"When you exalt the Son of man, you will know that I am what I am, and that I do nothing of myself; but as the Father has taught me, so I speak. And he who sent me is with me; He has not left me alone, for I always do what is good in His eyes."***

They were to exalt him. They were to have him exalted. And then they should understand that he is who he is.

They who came to believe in Him die not understand everything at this time. But faith bound them to Jesus. … Later they would understand more, understand who he really is. Yes, in fact that he is the I AM. The Lord. The Lord, whom Moses met at the thornbush. The Lord, who saved Israel from Egypt. The Lord, who is the Good Shepherd. The Lord who is the resurrection and the life.

When would they understand this? When they got Jesus exalted, whatever that meant. But Jesus had begun to teach them. He had taught Nicodemus: *"And just as Moses exalted the serpent in the wilderness, so the Son of man shall be exalted, that whosoever believeth may have eternal life in him. (Jn. 3:14-15).*

And later he told them: *And when I have been lifted up from the earth, I will draw all to me." He said*

skulle dø. (Joh 12:32-33). Og han uddybede de sådan: *«Timen er kommet, da Menneskesønnen skal herliggøres. Sandelig, sandelig siger jeg jer: Hvis hvedekornet ikke falder i jorden og dør, bliver det kun det ene korn; men hvis det dør, bærer det mange fold. (Joh 12:23-24)*

Derfor er korsfæstelsen, Jesu lidelse, død og opstandelse for os – for vore synder – til vor redning – det inderste i vores tro. Og det åbenbarer Gud for os, når vi lytter til Evangelierne og Skrifterne med alle profetierne om Kristus.

Det var også det afgørende i Apostlen Peters pinseprædiken. Her forstod jøderne, at Jesus, som de havde ophøjet på korset, var Herren og Kristus. *"Den Jesus, som I har korsfæstet, har Gud gjort både til Herre og til Kristus. (ApG 2:36).* Da stak dem i hjertet og de spurgte: Hvad skal vi gøre?

Og Peter svarede: *«Omvend jer og lad jer alle døbe i Jesu Kristi navn til jeres synders forladelse, så skal I få Helligånden som gave. (ApG 2:38).*

Da Jesus talte sådan, kom de til tro.

Så er det ordet om JESUS, hvad han har gjort for os og hvem han er, der giver os troen. Vi får troen, mens han taler til os om, hvem han er, og hvad han har gjort for os.

3. HANS ORD BEVARER OS I TROEN

Jesus ønskede, at de jøder, som var kommet til tro, også blev ved med at tro på ham. Og det samme gælder os: Jesus ønsker, at vi bliver ved med at tro og ikke mister tilliden til ham.

Jesus sagde nu til de jøder, som var kommet til tro på ham: «Hvis I bliver i mit ord, er I sandelig mine disciple, og I skal lære sandheden at kende, og sandheden skal gøre jer frie.» (Joh 8,31-32)

Han taler ikke om troen, men om sit ord, Evangeliet, det han har gjort for dem. Han taler om sandheden.

Troen bliver ikke bevaret ved, at vi undersøger troen i hjertet og taler meget om følelsen i os.

Forestil dig, at du er meget syg og opsøger en læge. Lægen finder hurtigt ud af, hvad du fejler. Han fortæller dig om den behandling, som kan

this, signifying how he was to die. (Jn. 12:32-33). And he elaborated thus: *"The hour has come when the Son of Man will be glorified. Verily, verily, I say to you, if the grain of wheat does not fall into the ground and die, it will be but the one grain; But if it dies, it bears many folds. (Jn. 12:23-24)*

Therefore, the crucifixion, the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus is for us – for our sins – for our salvation – the innermost part of our faith. And God reveals this to us when we listen to the Gospels and Scriptures with all the prophecies about Christ.

This was also the decisive point in the Apostle Peter's Pentecostal sermon. Here the Jews understood that they had Jesus whom they exalted on the cross was their Lord and Christ. *"The Jesus whom you crucified God has made both Lord and Christ. (Acts 2:36).* Then they pricked their hearts and they asked, "What shall we do?"

And Peter answered, *"Repent, and be baptized all of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:38).*

When Jesus spoke thus, they believed.

Then it is the word about JESUS, what He has done for us and who He is that gives us faith. We gain faith as He speaks to us about who He is and what He has done for us.

3. HIS WORD KEEPS US IN FAITH

Jesus wanted the Jews who had come to faith to continue to believe in him as well. And the same goes for us: Jesus wants us to keep believing and not lose trust in him.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will learn the truth, and the truth will make you free." (John 8:31-32)

He does not speak of faith, but of His Word, the Gospel, what He has done for them. He is talking about the truth.

Faith is not preserved by examining the faith in the heart and talking a lot about the feeling in us.

Imagine that you are very ill and see a doctor. The doctor will quickly find out what is wrong with you. He tells you about the treatment that can make you

gøre dig helt rask. Og han skriver en recept på den medicin, du har brug for. - Hvad skal du nu gøre for at blive rask? Tage medicinen!

Men hvad så, hvis lægen siger til dig før du går ud af døren: *”Jeg har lige et spørgsmål: Tror du på, at medicinen virker?”* Forundret svarer du: ”*Jo. Jeg stoler bare på det, du siger. Du er jo min gode læge. Og jeg vil gøre, som du sagde: tage to piller tre gange om dagen i 14 dage.” –*

Men forestil dig så, at lægen igen spørger: *”Men tror du det også?”* Da vil du måske blive lidt underlig tilpas og spørge: *”Men virker det kun, hvis jeg tror? Er det måske kalktabletter? Er det placebo du giver mig, så det kun virker, hvis jeg tror? – Er det det, du prøver at fortælle mig?”*

Nej, sådan siger en god læge ikke. Han taler i stedet om sygdommen og om behandlingen, som vil hjælpe. Den bekymrede patient skal have hjælp til at se alvoren og holde sig til medicinen.

Det er dette, Jesus gør. *”Bliv i mit ord, og I skal lære sandheden at kende, og sandheden skal gøre jer frie!”*

Når vi har hørt evangeliet om Jesus, og hvad han har gjort for os og at han er vor frelser, da skal vi fokusere på, hvad han har sagt. Det, som redder os, er ikke troen i sig selv, men hans ord, som vi tror på. Og hvis du kommer i tvivl om Ordet virker, da hør det endnu mere. For den virker.

Sandheden i Evangeliet og styrken i dåbens rensende bad og nadverens brød og vin, som er Jesu legeme og blod, redder os. Det kan vi stole på. Lad os blive i hans ord, som redder os. Amen.

completely healthy. And he writes a prescription for the medicine you need. - What do you need to do now to get well? Take the medicine!

But what if the doctor says to you before you walk out the door: *"I just have a question: Do you believe that the medicine works?"* Puzzled, you answer: "*Yes. I just trust what you say. You are my good doctor. And I will do as you said: take two pills three times a day for 14 days." –*

But then imagine that the doctor asks again: "*But do you believe that the medicine works and will heal you?"* Then you might get a little weird and ask: *"But does it only work if I believe? Is it perhaps calcium tablets? Is it a placebo you give me, so it only works if I believe? "Is that what you're trying to tell me?"*

No, a real doctor doesn't say that. Instead, he talks about the serious disease and about the treatment that will help. The worried patient needs help to see the seriousness and stick to the medication.

This is what Jesus does. *"Abide in my word, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."*

When we have heard the gospel of Jesus and what He has done for us and that he is our Savior, then we must focus on what He has said. What saves us is not faith in itself, but His Word, in which we believe. And if you are in doubt about whether the Word works, hear it even more. Because it works.

The truth of the Gospel and the strength of the cleansing bath of baptism and the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, which are the body and blood of Jesus, save us. We can rely on that. And let us therefore continue in His word which saves us. Amen.