

A Legacy of Authenticity

John 14:8-21 (NIV)

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

¹¹Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. ¹²I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

¹⁵"If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church's Mission Statement:

"To lead people to become authentic followers of Jesus Christ."

BECOMING AN AUTHENTIC FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST MEANS THAT I MUST:

1. BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS WHO HE SAYS HE IS. vv. 9-12

John 12:45 (NIV)

When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me.

Hebrews 1:3 (NIV)

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

- Sometimes we operate by sight rather than faith.
- Most of the time the proof is right before our eyes.
- We need to understand who Jesus really is.

2. BELIEVE THAT JESUS WILL DO WHAT HE SAYS HE WILL DO. vv. 13-14

1 John 3:22 (NIV)

. . . and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

- God is waiting on us to fulfill the mission He has given us.
- God seals His promises through His Son.
- What we ask will be given if it will bring glory to God.

3. BELIEVE THAT JESUS MEANS WHAT HE SAYS HE MEANS. vv. 15-21

Joshua 22:5 (NIV)

But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul.

- Our love for God is demonstrated by our obedience.
- We cannot become an authentic follower without obedience.
- Becoming an authentic follower ensures God's love for us.