

Reflection on Last Sunday's Sermon >>> Preacher: Rev. Dr. Dylan Toussaint

Title: Don't Take the Fake >>>>> **Text:** St. Luke 7:11-23

"Authentic" is the word of the year for 2023 according to Merriam-Webster Dictionary. The Dictionary noted that authentic has a number of meanings including "not false or imitation," a synonym of real and actual; and also "true to one's own personality, spirit, or character."

There is an authentication crisis in the world today- a crisis in determining the genuine versus, the fake.

December 3, 2023 represents the first Sunday in Advent. Advent focuses on the return of Jesus Christ.

In the passage, John the Baptist ("John") heard of the miracles Jesus had done and curiously sent his disciples to ask Jesus:

1. Whether He was the one; or
2. Whether they should expect someone else.

John did not want a fake Messiah. He wanted the real deal.

Giving guidance from the passage on how to treat with information received, the preacher used **FAKE** as an acronym as follows:

1. Facts

Get the facts. John sent his disciples directly to Jesus to inquire about Jesus' authenticity. Get the facts so you do not jump to conclusions or make false assumptions.

2. Assessment

Make an assessment. Notably, Jesus did not directly answer John's question. Jesus responded to John's question by performing miracles and instructing John's disciples to tell John the miracles they had seen and heard.

Jesus' verbal response was a direct quote from the book of Isaiah, as Isaiah had prophesied centuries before of what to look for in the Messiah. Isaiah gave the blueprint or the criteria. Jesus essentially told John to make the assessment.

3. Know

Knowing the genuine makes it easier to identify the fake.

Galatians 5:22-23 gives us the blueprint to assess our lives as Christians- the fruit of the spirit. Matthew 7:20 reminds us that by their fruit you shall know them. The blueprint is the life people live. Assess the fruit.

Know your limitations. John and Jesus were familiar with each other. John and Jesus were cousins. John baptized Jesus. John declared prepare ye the way of the Lord.

John knew his limitations and in this passage, sought confirmation. If John knew his limitation and asked Jesus for confirmation, what about us?

4. Expand

Expand or enlarge your focus on the Lord. Luke 7:23 states that "blessed is He, whosoever shall not be offended in Me". Jesus intimated that John should focus on Him.

Your relationship with God is what is most important. Doubts will always come. Remain focused.



EDGEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH BULLETIN

Sunday, December 10, 2023

KNOWING CHRIST, MAKING HIM KNOWN **JBU Theme: Embracing the Mystery**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dylan F. Toussaint	Address: 23 North Edgewater Avenue Bridgeport P.O.; St. Catherine Jamaica W.I
Deacon on Duty for the Month: Deacon Michael Blake	Telephone: 988-4734; Fax: 708-9915 E-mail: edgewaterbaptist@gmail.com Website: www.edgewaterbaptistchurch.org

† Today's Worship Service † 10:00 AM

Leader: Sis. Grace Nelson

Preacher: Dea. Garfield Robinson

**Musician: Bro. Kenae Wiggan; Bro. Sandrae Crasdale;
Bro. Conroy Johnson**

Order of Service

Call to Worship

Praise in Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

Welcome and Announcements: Dea. Claudette Hemmings – Church Secretary

Blessing & Collection of Tithes & Offering

Children's Church

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 8-18 – Sis. Barbara Gooden

Special Item: Sisters Tamara & Tameka Wilkie

Sermon

Hymn of Response

Prayer & Benediction

Best Wishes to all members and friends celebrating **Birthdays and / or Anniversaries this week.** May every lovely thing in life always come to you. **God Bless You ...**

Within the Church Family

Please remember to pray for the **Sick and Home-bound Members;** visit or telephone them. You may call the office for information.

Funeral Service for: Sis. Gail McLeod's husband is scheduled for Friday, December 15 at 11:00 a.m. at Burchell Baptist Church, Montego Bay.

Prayer Focus; Among Prayer Concerns are for:

- Those who suffer economic hardship
- Our homes, families and friends



Welcome ... Welcome ... New Members!

Today we warmly welcome into the Fellowship, the following persons:

Baptism: Sis. Tiana Ramsay

Reception: Sis. Shedeem Barnett, Sis. Shelly-Ann Biggs-Ramsay, Sis. Hyacinth Burrell, Sis. Vivene Gayle-Paul, Sis. Rosella McCarthy-Spencer.

THE CHURCH DIARY

Sundays	8:30 a.m. Family Bible Hour New Members' and Enquirers' Class 10:00 a.m. Divine Worship Service 1:00 p.m. Dance Group Practice 7:00 p.m. Evening Service
Sundays (2nd)	(after worship) Healing & Counselling Clinic (after worship) Women's Federation
Tuesdays (3rd)	7:30 p.m. Care Ministry Meeting
Wednesdays	10:00 a.m. Prayer and Fasting 7:30 p.m. Bible Study - Online
Fridays	7:30 p.m. Youth Fellowship Meeting
Fridays (3rd)	7:30 p.m. Ushers' Board Meeting
Mondays (4th)	7:00 p.m. Women's Federation
Saturdays	2:30 p.m. Family Bible Hour Choir Practice 4:30 p.m. Boys' & Girls' Brigades Meeting 6:00 p.m. Couples Ministry Meeting 6:00 p.m. Young Adults Ministry
Alternate 4th Saturdays	6:30 p.m. Brotherhood Meeting
Saturdays (2nd)	5:30 p.m. Evangelism Meeting
1st Saturdays	6:30 p.m. Dorcas (Outreach) Ministry
2nd	"
3rd	"

Happenings; ** Announcements; ** Coming Events

- **EBC Federation Christmas Social** - Friday, December 15
- **Youth Fellowship Circuit Social** - Friday, December 15 at EBC at 7:00 p.m.
- **EBC Dorcas Treat** - Saturday, December 16 at 3:00 p.m.
- **Portmore Baptist Fellowship Carol Service** - Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the Portmore Mall Amphitheatre
- **Christmas Morning Service** - Monday, December 25 at 6:00 a.m.
- **Watch Night Service** - Sunday, December 31 at 10:00 p.m.

Evangelism Notices

- **Evangelistic Services** will be held in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m on the following Sundays: January 14, 21 & 28, 2024. All members and friends are invited to attend. Members are asked to pray for the services and to invite their unsaved friends and families to the meetings.
- All members and friends are invited to join the **Weekly Prayer Meetings** on the Zoom platform every Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. in January 2024. These meetings will have a special emphasis on the Evangelistic Services and Activities to be held in that month. The Zoom link will be sent at the appropriate time
- The Evangelistic Ministry team will be conducting **"Prayer Walks"** to some communities every Saturday afternoon during the month of January 2024. Members of the Classes interested in participating in the walks should meet at the church at 3:30 p.m. for prayer. The walks will last for about two hours.

<<<<< For Your Information >>>>>

- ▶ Please be informed that the **church's landline is temporarily out of service.** You may reach the office by calling 876-540-0525. Thank you
- ▶ **Property Management Notice:** Persons who have lost or found items on the church compound, please contact the Property Manager or the Assistant Property Manager.
- ▶ Please remember to call in to the Church office or give the Church Secretary or Asst. Church Secretary your notices for the Bulletin, or any other information to be announced on Sunday, Thursday of each week. The Church Secretary's # 770-4477 (c) ; The Assistant Church Secretary's # 418-8509 (c). Thank you