

# SERMON NOTES

*Reason To Believe: Believe*  
*John 4:39-54*

The ministry of Jesus is moving forward. John continues to make the point, “the only way you will ever be forgiven and receive salvation is by believing in Him.” There were entire regions, cities, and people exposed to Jesus’ teaching, words and works. Many identified Him as a “teacher sent from God” but they did not “believe.” As we read the New Testament, the words and works of Jesus were intended to lead people to belief in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. As we seek to model ministry after Jesus, let’s remember this key thought:

**Key thought:** God wants to use you as an instrument to lead people to belief in Jesus.

**The primary purpose (goal) – “that you may believe”**

John 1:7, 12; 2:22; 3:16, 36; 6:29, 35, 40; 8:24; 12:46

“Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so **that you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.” *John 20:30-31*

“But all were rejoicing that so many ‘believed’” (ἐπίστευσαν [episteusan], really believed). (v. 41)

Believe - pisteuo - to consider something to be true and therefore worthy of one’s trust,

Jesus wants you to believe in Him, to believe that He is God who came in the flesh, died for your sins and rose from the dead to give you eternal life. Therefore, to believe in Him is to trust in Him as Savior and Lord.

**His ministry in Samaria... (vs. 39-42)**

- Jesus will use your personal story
- Jesus responds to the spiritually hungry
- Jesus models how to seize our opportunities for sowing and reaping

**His ministry moves to Galilee... (vs. 43-54)**

- The words and works of Jesus draw people (vs. 43-45)
- Desperation draws people (vs. 46-54)

“‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’” *Acts 16:30-31*