

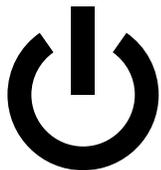


Speaker: Keith Minier

Title: Reasonable Reverence

Summary: Our *reason* for faith flows from *reverence* for Jesus.

Key Verses: 1 Peter 3:13–15; Luke 23:32–43 (cf. Matt. 7:13–23; Jn. 14:6)



Power Up: *Take a moment to prepare*

Keith asserts, “You will never have a public reason to defend something that hasn’t first become personal to you.” Talk about a personal topic or idea you tend to defend in conversations with friends.



Replay: *Take some time to watch*

Note the flow of Keith’s talk: To revere God means having **1)** a proper perspective of His awesome nature; **2)** a personal relationship to His Son; and **3)** a surrendered response (“He is Lord”) as His people.



Comment: *Take some time to talk*

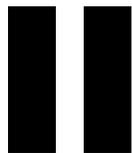
Keith says the engine of Christian faith is this: “Jesus plus nothing equals everything.” **What does this mean? What do you add to Jesus?**

Read 1 Peter 3:13–14. *What was it like for Peter’s audience to follow Jesus? How favorable are people toward Christianity today?*

How would you define reverence? How does it compare to hype? What aspects of God’s nature and works do you consider awesome?

Keith says, “We behave as if Jesus is above all because we believe Jesus is above all.” **How do belief and behavior feed off each other? What are some key personal beliefs you hold about Jesus?**

Keith describes surrender as the proper response to Jesus being Lord. **What is the alternative? What does surrender look like?** Be specific.



Pause: *Take a moment to pray*

Thank Jesus for His death and resurrection. Thank Him for the gift of salvation. Ask Him for courage to surrender your whole life—thoughts, relationships, hobbies, time, and gifts—to honor Him.



Take Action: *Make it personal*

Take a close look at your life. Consider one area where you have tried to add to Jesus’s work. Confess it and accept His grace. Consider one area where you have not surrendered to Jesus. Confess it and offer it to Him.

Bonus Features: Additional Notes and Quotes from Keith Minier

Context of 1 Peter:

- 1st century audience of Christians in a culture fighting against Christian faith.
- Called to live as “royal priests” shining the light of Jesus (2:9–10).

“It’s becoming more challenging to become a Christian in our culture.”

“We believe in something that is incredibly audacious that requires an answer. It can sound arrogant. We don’t believe Jesus is *an* answer; he is *the* answer... this puts us in a place where people question us.”

Engine of the Christian faith: Jesus plus nothing equals everything.

(Not Jesus +religious works, +great salary, +great kids, +comfort, +baptism, +good things)

“Familiarity is at odds with things being spectacular... The more you see, hear, know, the more you get used to it... you take it for granted.

“Even the name of God is something we revere. Saying ‘OMG’ shows our lack of reverence.”

“Hype shows up in our culture all the time [e.g., ESPN’s feature game, latest Avengers movie, new girl, great college]... Hype always sets you up to be disappointed.

There is one place where hype makes me excited. We have not hyped the glory of God... The God we worship is too small. We need to get better at hyping up the reality of God.”

“Following God is not about you, it’s about Him and His glory, fame, name, character, and works. We are not the center of the universe, He is.”

Jesus Christ at the cross told you he wanted to save you. In the empty tomb, he proved he could. The empty tomb proved his authority.

“*Lord* means Jesus is your Master. He’s your King. He’s the one who’s in control. He’s above all things. He makes the rules. He’s right; we’re wrong. He guides and directs our life.”

“There is no such thing as a casual Christian. It doesn’t exist.”

“[Surrender means] my life is given to Jesus completely... it’s an all-in endeavor... Every part of me is surrendered to God. My destiny, purity, integrity, future, friendships, anxiety, depression, fear, sexuality, and identity.”

“You don’t need to defend the Christian faith if your not yet a Christian.”

“There are only two doors of response to this reality [of Jesus]: Belief or unbelief.” These are embodied in the two thieves (see Luke 23:32–43). One **rejects** Jesus; the other **reveres** Him.
Which thief are you?