



JAMES ISLAND

Presbyterian Church

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Throughout the Gospels, Jesus asks 307 questions. Interestingly, Jesus did not ask questions for informational purposes. Jesus asked questions to provoke the love of God and love of neighbor. Jesus' questions transformed the people around him and continue to transform the world. Therefore, if God calls us to church to transform us to look and act more like Jesus, we must become experts at asking questions. Which leads me to question, in a society that is eager for certainty which often creates division, how do we become better at asking questions that provoke the love of God and love of neighbor?

Perhaps one way we can do that is continuing to live into creating a safe place to know Jesus. Which then leads to another question, "What does a safe place to know Jesus look like?" Neither this question nor the previous question can be answered (if at all) in a three-paragraph letter. However, this is what I have observed my first two weeks at James Island Presbyterian Church. I have witnessed and met people who are curious about God, our faith, and this world. I have met people within our church who do not pretend to have all the answers but are eager to prayerfully discern where the Holy Spirit is taking us. And I have met people who are eager to share their questions and their life with others as Jesus transforms us as a body of Christ. I do not know about you but that gets me excited.

I look forward to being in a place that is willing to share our questions with each other. As we together, stand in front of God who fulfills all things including our needs as individuals, as a church, and within this world.

Yours in Christ,

Barrett

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