SERMON NOTES:

STEP BY STEP: SPIRITUAL TOOLBOX – REASON (Critical Thought)
Sermon Title: When Faith Is Note Enough
Scripture: Matthew 13:13 – 15. (Pastor Don Whalen)

SUMMARY: Reason and spirituality have, for some, been incompatible at the very least; more would argue they are polar opposites. We who claim to share a theological reference with Wesley must be able to embrace both. Wesley would have us guard against over valuing or under valuing this gift of God. To quote Mr. Wesley in regarding reason, "It means a faculty of the human soul; that faculty which exerts itself in three ways; -- by simple apprehension, by judgment, and by discourse."[1] A walk in faith includes reason. Though some claim to have been Christians all their life they too face situations in their faith walk where they must struggle to find God's presence in the midst of great evil, depravity, horrendous poverty, personal grief, or some form of personal loss. Therefore, as Christians who are moving on to perfection we must be ready to give an answer to any who ask for the **reason** of the hope which lies within us.

1. Faith's ultimate place in our relationship with God.

2. My heart cannot rejoice in what my mind cannot accept.[2]

3. There is a Scriptural basis for reason.

4. Reason in the right amount is essential; too much and faith is forsaken, too little growth is stilted.

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[1] *Wesley, John The Case Of Reason Impartially Considered, Sermon (text from 1872 version)*
[2] *McDowell, Josh Evidence That Demands A Verdict*

5. Who was Jesus? How many choices are there?

6. **My Notes**