

THE WAY OF JESUS

Part Four: ...When You Feel Doubt // Jeff Brodie // May 15, 2022

Doubt is inevitable. Whether you are exploring faith or have been a follower of Jesus for a long time, you will face seasons of doubt. We all do. So how do you handle doubt? How do you get doubt right? How did Jesus handle doubt? In this message, we look at how doubt can actually move you forward rather than set you back. In fact, it might surprise you how Jesus changes you on the other side of your doubt.

Scripture: [1 John 2:15-17 NLT](#); [Acts 26:9-11 NLT](#); [John 20:24-29 NLT](#); [Hebrews 3:12-14 NLT](#); [Matthew 16:24-26 NLT](#)

Bottom Line: Doubt is a doorway to deeper faith.

Getting Started:

1. When you look at the world around you, would you say that society is questioning people and ideas more or less? Why do you think that?
2. Do you tend to choose trust or suspicion when you hear someone share an idea online? Why? What about the people around you?
3. Have you ever experienced doubt when it comes to your faith? Are you doubting or questioning faith now? What is that experience like? How does it feel?
4. Jeff shared the following two quotes below from author Brian Zahnd.
 - *"Christianity has suffered more casualties from faux faith than from honest doubt."*
 - *"Complacency, not doubt, is the great enemy of spiritual development."*What do you find challenging about them? Why do you think the world of religion breeds this kind of behaviour?

Discuss:

5. Read [John 20:24-29](#). What do you think Thomas' emotion was when he hadn't found or seen Jesus and didn't know if he ever would? How would he have felt when he saw Jesus and experienced this? Do you connect with Thomas' experience? Why or why not?

6. Is it reassuring to you that Jesus welcomes doubts? Why do you think we sometimes fear doubting?
7. Jesus shared that doubt is the doorway to deeper faith, but deconstruction must be met with reconstruction. Is there a time in your life when you explored doubt and your faith grew on the other side?
8. Read [Hebrews 3:12-14](#). Why do you think the writer gives Christ followers this command?
9. If you know Jesus can handle your doubts, that they help you grow, and that if you focus on him and gathering with his people, he can transform you, what doubt would you want to tackle today?
10. Your group and Alpha are fantastic environments to explore doubts. What tools have you used that have been helpful? We'll list some below.
11. [Matthew 16:24-26](#) has been a theme verse for this series. Read it together and think of one way you want to put into practice the way of Jesus coming out of this series. It could be when you experience pain, success/failure, or doubt.

Moving Forward:

"Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, while it is still 'today,' so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ." - Hebrews 3:12-14

Resources:

The Problem of God by Mark Clark (and [series with Carey Nieuwhof](#))

The Problem of Jesus by Mark Clark (also a [series at Connexus](#))

[Versus series](#) by Mark Clark

[Undrink the Koolaid series](#) by Carey Nieuwhof

[The Chosen series](#) about Jesus really brings Scripture to life

The Case for Christ or The Case for Faith by Lee Stroebel

When Everything is on Fire by Brian Zahnd