

# WHY WE DOUBT GOD!

**QUESTION:** I believe in God but sometimes it is hard for me to believe what I'm believing for will happen or my prayers will be answered. I start off believing God but after a while or when other challenges happen, I lose faith. What can I do not to lose faith?

Many believers begin a faith project but struggle with continuing to believe God until they receive the full manifestation of the promise.

**POWER POINT–** Every believer in every faith fight will be tempted to doubt God. Satan tempted eve to doubt God.

- Peter doubted but Jesus restored his faith

## **Matthew 14:22,24–33 NLT**

Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!" But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." "Yes, come," Jesus said. So, Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then the disciples worshiped him. "YOU REALLY ARE THE SON OF GOD!" THEY EXCLAIMED.

## 4 BASIC REASONS WHY WE DOUBT GOD

### 1. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE – WHO GOD THE FATHER IS. WHO JESUS CHRIST IS.

**Hosea 4:6 NLT**

My people are being destroyed because they don't know me...

- Don't know God loves us unconditionally & wants us to receive his best

**Romans 8:32 GNT**

Certainly not God, who did not even keep back his own Son, but offered him for us all! He gave us his Son—will he not also freely give us all things?

- Don't know Jesus Christ is our savior. What his purpose was (he reconciled us with God.) He purchased our deliverance, healing, forgiveness of sin, protection, provision. In him we live & move and have real life

[33] Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION**– Have you had a personal encounter with God that revealed to you, his reality? Briefly share it.

### 2. ERROR IN TEACHING

**Mark 6:6 KJVS**

And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

**Matthew 16:6 NLT**

"Watch out!" Jesus warned them. "Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

### **Matthew 16:12 NLT**

Then at last they understood that he wasn't speaking about the yeast in bread, but about the deceptive teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

- Jesus said take heed to what you hear. What you consistently hear is what you will believe.

### **Romans 10:17 AMP**

So faith comes from hearing [what is told],

WHAT YOU HEAR + WHAT YOU BELIEVE = WHAT YOU RECEIVE

3. **FEAR**– BEING DOMINATED BY OUR PHYSICAL SENSES & EMOTIONS INSTEAD OF THE WORD. IT LOOKS LIKE, SEEM LIKE, FEEL LIKE IT'S NOT WORKING.

**PETER**– [30] But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink.

### **2 Corinthians 5:7 NLT**

For we live by believing and not by seeing.

### **2 Corinthians 5:7 ERV**

We live by what we believe will happen, not by what we can see.

Our physical senses are from God. They are good & beneficial, but we must not choose to follow them when they contradict the word of God.

**DISCUSSION**– SHARE A SITUATION YOU WERE DOMINATED BY YOUR SENSES OR EMOTIONS INSTEAD OF GOD'S WORD

#### **4. PERSONAL DECISION – CHOOSE NOT TO BELIEVE.**

##### **John 20:25 TLB**

When they kept telling him (THOMAS), "We have seen the Lord," he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands—and put my fingers into them—and place my hand into his side."

- We can choose to believe God's word regardless of what we think or feel.
- Seeing is not believing. What we see we already have. Seeing is knowing.
- We don't believe for what we already have.

##### **Romans 8:24–25 TLB**

We are saved by trusting. And trusting means looking forward to getting something we don't yet have—for a man who already has something doesn't need to hope and trust that he will get it. But if we must KEEP TRUSTING GOD FOR SOMETHING THAT HASN'T HAPPENED YET, IT TEACHES US TO WAIT PATIENTLY AND CONFIDENTLY.

We are in a fixed faith fight. We must refuse the temptation to doubt God. We must learn to stand strong on the word regardless of all the contrary circumstances. It's not easy but it is doable

##### **Hebrews 10:35–36 NLT**

... DO NOT THROW AWAY THIS CONFIDENT TRUST IN THE LORD. Remember the great reward it brings you! [36] PATIENT ENDURANCE IS WHAT YOU NEED NOW, so that you will continue to do God's will. THEN YOU WILL RECEIVE ALL THAT HE HAS PROMISED.

**ENDURANCE– INNER STRENGTH TO STAND UP UNDER PRESSURE**

**POWER POINT– GOD CAN NOT LIE. HE SAID IT HE WILL DO IT**

##### **DISCUSSION QUESTION**

What should you do when you are believing & it looks like it not going happen?