

Thrill of Hope: Doubt of Hope

Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

December 8, 2019

Icebreaker: Do you have a story that 100% happened, but is just too crazy for people to believe?

Read the story of Zechariah & Elizabeth

Why do you think Zechariah wanted a sign from Gabriel?

How could having doubts be a good thing for a Christian?

Can someone be a Christian without having doubt? Why or why not?

What is a question that you are dealing with in your faith right now?

What do you think the differences between a Posture of Pride and Posture of Seeking really look like?

Read James 1:5-8

How does James' view of doubt fit into all of this?

How often do you sit in silence and listen to God? What could you do to create more time? *(If you don't think there's anything you can do, think harder: There must be some time you can give to God!)*

As a group, honestly evaluate how well you handle seasons of doubt. how can your group become an environment where doubts can be shared and discussed in a way that allows true growth to occur?

Pray that God will continue to work with your group as you wrestle with questions, and that He would give you the ability to listen to Him more often amidst a busy culture.

"I think, when a man says, 'I never doubt,' it is quite time for us to begin to say, 'Ah, poor soul, I am afraid you are not on the road at all, for if you were, you would see so many things in yourself, and so much glory in Christ more than you deserve, that you would be so much ashamed of yourself, as even to say, "It is too good to be true."'" -

Charles Spurgeon

"There is a mystery to faith, as there is to life, that I don't fully understand...When we take seriously the reality of faith and doubt, the most important word in the phrase is the one in the middle...Because most people I know are a mix of the two" - **John Ortberg**, *Know Doubt: The Importance of Embracing Uncertainty in Your Faith*

"A man may be haunted with doubts and only grow thereby in faith. Doubts are the messengers of the Living One to the honest. They are the first knock at our door of things that are not yet, but have to be, understood." - **George Macdonald**

"Those who believe that they believe in God, but without passion in their hearts, without anguish in mind, without uncertainty, without doubt, without an element of despair even in their consolation, believe in the God idea, not God Himself." -

Miguel de Unamuno