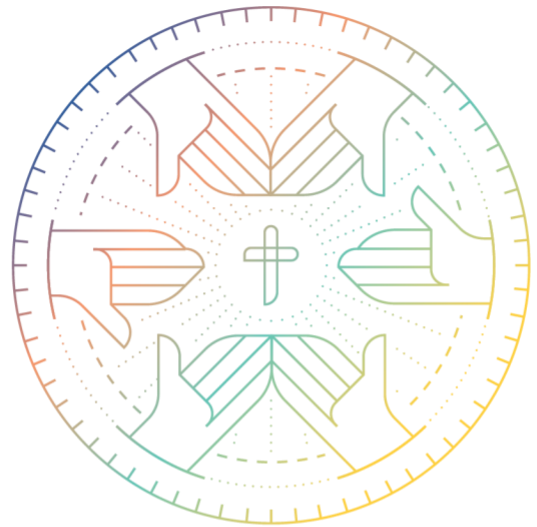


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What's one aspect of Christianity that seems to draw the most doubt among those outside the Church?

OR

Has there ever been a time in your life when you deeply struggled with doubt? What were the circumstances and how did you get through that season?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Read John 20:19-29.

What most stood out to you from this week's sermon?

Did the list of "all-star" doubters from the Bible surprise you? Were there others you could add? What does that list tell us in terms of our own doubt and God's ability to work with our doubts?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Mark 9:21-25. What did the father mean when he said, "I believe, help my unbelief!"? How did Jesus respond to the father? What can this brief exchange teach us about doubt?

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Read James 1:5-8. How does this passage expand our understanding of doubt? Does it address the dangers of doubt or the effects of doubt? What does it mean to “ask in faith”?

Read Romans 14:1-4 and Jude 1:22. How do these verses help us to understand our response to people struggling with doubt, hesitation or confusion in their faith?

Read 1 Cor. 13:9, Deut. 29:29 and Luke 8:17. How do these verses add to our understanding of doubt or uncertainty?

APPLICATION (15 MINUTES)

Based on the sermon, what advice would you give to someone who is struggling with doubt in their Christian faith?

On a scale of 1-10, 1 being not very hard and 10 being really hard, how hard are you on yourself when you have doubts? Did this message help you to go easier on yourself? Remember, “Doubt is as common to mankind as sunsets are to the horizon.”

How does it make you feel to hear Jesus say, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed”?

How can we turn doubt into an opportunity for spiritual growth and a stronger faith? Jesus met Thomas squarely in the midst of his doubt. Where do you need God to meet you today? What assurance do you lack? Is there a way to trade your doubt for trust?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Our Savior and Lord Jesus, we hear the story of Thomas and his doubts and we are so grateful for how it encourages us. We cannot be perfect in our faith and we recognize that it wavers now and then. You have shown us that doubts do not disqualify us and that you long to satisfy our doubts with your assurances. Meet us today where we are- not where we wish we were. Thank you for your love, compassion and understanding and for being our Good Shepherd. Amen.