

When Doubt Becomes a Blessing

Bringing Our Questions to Jesus

Key Scripture - John 20:27-29 (KJV)

"Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands... and be not faithless, but believing."

A Thought for the Day

For many years I think Christians have heard the name "Doubting Thomas" almost as though doubt itself were his great failure. But when I look at Thomas, I see something else.

Thomas had questions. He wanted to know that what he was being told was true. And Jesus did not throw Thomas away because he questioned. Jesus met him in the middle of his doubt.

That has become important to me because I have learned through my own life that faith does not mean we never have questions. There have been times when I believed God completely and still wondered, God, what are You doing? Why is this happening? Where are You in this?

Those questions did not have to become the end of my faith. Sometimes they became the very place where my faith grew.

When Questions Lead Us Toward Jesus

There is a difference between using doubt as a reason to walk away from God and bringing our doubts directly to Him.

Thomas stayed close enough to the other disciples that when Jesus appeared again, Thomas was there. And Jesus came to him.

He showed Thomas His hands and His side. Then He told him, "be not faithless, but believing." Thomas responded with one of the strongest declarations of faith in the Gospel: "My Lord and my God."

Think about that. The man remembered for doubting ended up making an extraordinary confession of who Jesus is. His question brought him face-to-face with the answer.

What About My Doubts?

Maybe you are walking through something right now that does not make sense. You may have prayed and have not seen an answer. You may have experienced loss. You may be facing uncertainty about your family, your health, your future, or even your relationship with God.

Do not be afraid to bring those questions to Jesus. Faith is not pretending that we understand something when we do not. Faith is learning to trust God even when we do not understand.

I have learned that sometimes God answers the question. Sometimes He changes the question. And sometimes He simply reminds me: "I am still here." And sometimes that is the answer I needed most.

Carry This With You

This week, instead of hiding a question from God, bring it to Him. Open His Word. Pray about it honestly. Do not manufacture an answer just because you think a Christian is supposed to have one.

What am I questioning right now?

Is my doubt pushing me away from Jesus - or can I allow it to push me toward Him?

Can I trust God while I am still waiting for the answer?

Closing Prayer

Father, You know the questions I carry, including the ones I am sometimes afraid to say out loud. Thank You that You are not frightened by my questions. Help me bring them to You instead of allowing them to pull me away from You. When I understand, help me trust You. When I do not understand, help me trust You still. And like Thomas, may my questions ultimately bring me closer to the place where I can say with confidence, "My Lord and my God." In Jesus' name, Amen.

Rick Hicks Ministries
Helping people grow in faith, one question at a time.