

Gospel of the Matthew “Doubt and Worship”
Matthew 28:16-20
August 18, 2024

Matthew 28:16-20

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The eleven.

Matthew 28:17

17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted.

The intellectual honesty of the resurrection account.

How can you see Jesus and doubt at all?

Matthew 14:30-31

30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

Christians can be both believers and doubters.

Mark 9:21-24

21 And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. 22 And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” 23 And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

Doubts will come.

It is not the quality of your faith but the object of your faith.

“The Bible gives everything we need, but not every answer – all the necessary truth, but plenty of room to wonder. Doubt isn’t sin, and asking questions can actually strengthen faith. Trust in God stems from understanding His character, not His reasons.”

The resurrection asks us to let go of certain beliefs and expected outcomes and accept new ones.

1 Corinthians 13:9-12

9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

Worshipping in the middle of our doubts maybe be the most faithful thing we can do.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- There are eleven disciples and some of them are doubting. How would you describe the readiness of this group for the "Great Commission?" What can this teach us about Jesus? About ourselves?
- If skeptics doubt everything and devout religious are encouraged to doubt nothing, then how do you know what the right amount of doubt is?
- What is something you dealing with that you are unsure of right now? What are you confused or concerned about? How is this situation impacting your relationship with Jesus?
- Mark 9:21-24 includes, "I do believe, help my unbelief!" What can we learn from the father's response?
- What helps you worship while in the midst of doubt and unanswered questions?
- How can your Life Group help encourage you in light of this teaching this week?