

All Things New ~ September 30, 2015  
Doubts

We are doubters by nature. We naturally ask questions. We like to believe in the easy things so when things get tough, we instantly doubt that God is in control.

There are different types of doubters.

There is the Empirical Doubter. Their belief comes from required information they don't have. They want cold hard facts to prove what they believe.

There is the Disillusioned Doubter. Their belief would require conclusions they don't see. They question if God is real then why is this happening.

There is the Disappointed Doubter. Their belief would require forgiving they don't want. They doubt who God is based upon what has been done to them by other Christians.

There is the Moral Doubter. Their belief would require a change they do not want. This is where most people are.

Our lives with Christ are a perfect Jenga tower. It is intricately woven together where if one block is missing, it become unstable. We are complete and whole in Christ, but we start doubting and we start doing stuff our way, taking block by block apart the tower. When we withhold from Jesus and the waves start crashing, we are easily swayed.

How is faith kindled?

John 20:22-29

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

24 Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin,[a] was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

26 Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Faith is DEAD when the heart is passive.

Thomas is not there the first time Jesus appeared to the disciples. Scriptures don't say where he is, just that he's not there. However, Thomas wasn't where he was supposed to be to believe that Jesus was alive so he lost faith.

Faith grows through reading the Bible, Fellowship with other Believers, and Church. Doing enough so people don't ask questions makes your faith dead.

Faith is Kindled when the heart obstacle is identified.

When Thomas placed himself in a position where he could grow, his faith was strengthened. Jesus knows exactly where Thomas is at. He knew exactly what Thomas needed.

Faith is Sparked when the Lord reveals Himself to our obstacles.

He is seeking us. Jesus knows where we are at too, and when we place ourselves in a position to grow, Jesus will grow us. To know him more, we need to get to work. He has already saved us, he already loves us, and our motivation rests in those facts.

Faith is Ignited when we submit to Jesus' power over the obstacles

People won't always believe in Jesus and that is not our fault. If you really want to know who God is, when he reveals himself to you, you WILL surrender everything. Don't complain about doubts in your not doing anything to search for answers.

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet still believe."

John 20:29