THE DOUBTERS CLUB COUBLES

The Doubters Club: The Uncertainty Principle

April 10th & 11th Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson Scripture: John 20:24

Series Overview

"The Doubters Club has many members, from Job to Sarah, to Thomas, one of Christ's own disciples. Doubt is both a common and shared experience for many of us in the Beloved community. Although doubt can be a disorientating and a confusing experience, Christ walked through a wall to sit with Thomas in his doubt and he would do the same for you. As Thomas Merton once said, "though I may seem to be lost... I will not fear, for You are ever with me."

Series Discussion Questions

Where have you experienced doubt in your life?

Message Overview

Life is infinitely uncertain and God is infinitely complex. The net result? Doubt. We think of doubt in negative terms, but it's a key catalyst when it comes to faith. Doubt breaks down our false narratives, false assumptions, and false beliefs. It forces us to deconstruct and reconstruct our faith by digging a little deeper. How do you deal with doubt? 1. Seek Wise Counsel 2. Keep Asking Questions 3. Create a Deuteronomy 29:29 File 4. Take a Field Trip 5. When all else fails, Eat A Watermelon. Yes, eat a watermelon. Trust me, it'll make sense when you listen to the message!

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

How do you respond when you have moments of doubt?

Read John 20:24-27. In this passage, Jesus comes to Thomas and says: "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." When was a time that Jesus showed up during a time of doubt in your life? How did you respond?

Pastor Mark stated: "Faith is a lot like the apps on your phone. If you don't update them, if you don't upgrade them, they will eventually stop working." **Take some time to think about an area of your life where you need to grow in faith. What can you do to strengthen your faith regarding that area this week?**

Pastor Mark presented five applications to do when you are feeling doubt: 1. Seek wise counsel, 2. Keep asking questions, 3. Create a Deuteronomy 29:29 file, 4. Take a two-foot field trip, & 5. Eat a watermelon.

- 1. How has a mentor helped you in a time of doubt?
- 2. Jesus said, "Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you." What questions do you need to ask?
- 3. Deuteronomy 29:29 says that the secret things belong to God. What do you need to release to the Father today?
- 4. In Genesis 15 God tells Abraham to look up at the sky. What has God promised you?
- 5. Pastor Mark said: "Anyone can count the number of seeds in a watermelon. Only God can count the number of watermelons in a seed." What uncertainty do you need to embrace?

Practical Application

- Take some time to journal through the five applications that Pastor Mark presented this week. Send a message of thanks and encouragement to someone who has helped you in a time of doubt.
- Join us throughout The Doubters Club series, as we dig into God's Word and practice the S.O.A.P. (Scripture, observation, application, prayer) method of Bible study together throughout the week. Subscribe at <u>NCC Daily</u>
- Climb the stairs to the <u>Upper Zoom</u> each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am.
 We'll come together as a community to start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. **Register at** <u>ncc.re/UpperZoom</u>.