



#2 God Can Handle Your Doubts

God Can Handle Your Doubts And They Can Even Become A Pathway To A Deeper, More Meaningful Faith.

We can examine our beliefs and **let go of what's untrue**, and **build on what is true**. Ultimately creating a more **solid foundation** for our faith.

Matthew 14:27-31 NIV

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take Courage! It is I. Don't be afraid. "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.

"You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

What did Jesus do?

Jesus reached out his hand and met Peter in his doubt.

Jesus Didn't Reject Peter FOR His Doubt—He rescued Peter FROM His Doubt

"why did you doubt?"

What If This Question Isn't An Accusation, But An Invitation?

Deconstruction Is A Sincere Examination Of Your Beliefs, Letting Go Of What's Untrue To Build On What Is True.

Deconstruction Can Be Form Of Discipleship

Matthew 5:38-39 NIV "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also."

Jesus uses this phrase **"You have heard that it was said,** Then Jesus says.... **But I tell you... He is saying there are things you Thought true—But they are Not true** Jesus de-constructs those widely held beliefs.

So how do you interpret the Bible?

The answer is always Jesus !

Read The Bible Through The Lens Of Jesus

What Jesus taught, How Jesus lived, How Jesus loved.

After Jesus gets arrested let's look at how Peter's doubts surface again

He denied Jesus—(3X)

Then went back to fishing

Read Luke 22:54-62

But Peter's story doesn't end there.

Later after Jesus' resurrection

Peter, do you love me?—Feed sheep!—(3X)

Read John 21:15-19

Doubt Did Not Destroy Peter's Faith

It Made His Faith Stronger

1 Peter 2:25 NIV

"you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls

Peter is reminding us that even though we may have gotten off track or doubted, there is a way back to TRUTH

Peter experienced first-hand what it felt like to doubt and fail only to have Jesus again and again forgive and restore him. He will do the same for YOU.

Life Group Questions:

In a few sentences, share about your faith background.

What do you appreciate about your past experiences?

Read: Matthew 14:27-31

- Are you more likely to read Jesus' question as an accusation or an invitation?
- What truths about His character could help shape your perspectives on faith?
- What are some reasons why people might doubt their faith in God?
- How can we respond to their questions or struggles with grace and curiosity?
- How do you typically navigate your questions about faith? How could these questions grow your faith?
- Share about any beliefs you've either questioned in the past or are currently questioning.
- How do you identify what's true and what's untrue?

Source: Life Church Open Network "The Benefit of The Doubt"

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