

2024 SPRING CONNECT GROUPS
'GET REAL' WEEK 5: REAL PEOPLE HAVE QUESTIONS
Week of MAY 5-May 11th

Introduction: The big idea: "Real people have questions, but trust doesn't have to have all the answers."

Summary: In this message we asked the question, 'is it ok to question God?'. Some people believe that questioning or doubting God is totally off limits; they believe to question God is to put yourself in spiritual danger. However, the Bible makes room for people who are struggling with questions or doubts. Sometimes life doesn't make sense and doesn't line up with our ideas about God, but even in the midst of our questions we can still trust God, because trust doesn't have to have all the answers.

This week we looked at three reasons people sometimes struggle with questions and doubts:

- 1. By believing false ideas about God.**
- 2. Because of a failure to cultivate a personal relationship with God.**
- 3. By valuing answers over trust.**

In this message we looked at principles such as:

- We have questions and doubts because we're human – it's natural to have questions.
- The biggest question that people ask is, 'Why?'
- Faith and doubt are not mutually exclusive; they can coexist in a person's life.
- The Bible in places like Job, the Psalms, and the prophets question God.
- God knows our hearts anyway, so we should in faith be honest and bring our questions to him.
- Three remedies for dealing with questions and doubts: 1. See doubts and questions as normal, 2. Embrace the tension between faith and doubt, and 3. Practice patience to let God work it out.

Scriptures to Explore:

- 1. Psalm 10:1**
- 2. Mark 9:17-18, 23-24**
- 3. Proverbs 3:5-6**

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you believe are some of the most common areas of life in which people question God? Have you known people who questioned or doubted in their faith?
2. Is there a time in your life that you personally wrestled with questions and doubt? How did you deal with these and what did you learn through this time?
3. Read Psalm 10:1, how does it make you feel to know that the psalmist questions why it seems that God is far away and hiding himself? Does that make you feel that you can be more honest with God?
4. What do you think of the statement that the father said in Mark 9:34, have you ever felt this way?
5. How can the truth of Proverbs 3:5-6 help us in trusting God. How can we practically trust God when faced with uncertainties and questions?

Personal Application: List some of the questions and doubts that you may be currently struggling with. Then list ways in which you can trust God to help you in the midst of these questions.

Prayer