Teen Topics Dealing with Doubt (Part 2)

In our previous lesson, we saw that many times doubt is a result of legitimate questions we may have concerning our faith. Today, let's look at how God responds to our doubt. Does God get angry with us? Or is it possible that God could use our doubt for good?

How God Looks at Those Who Have Doubts

Read the story of Thomas in John 20:24-28, and then answer the following questions:

> Describe the doubt that Thomas had: <u>Thomas questioned</u> whether Jesus had really raised from the dead.

> How did Jesus respond to his doubt? <u>He was not upset or</u> angry, rather He showed kindness and patience.

> How do you believe Jesus viewed Thomas' doubt? <u>He</u> understood that Thomas had a legitimate question, and that Thomas truly wanted to believe.

God does not get angry with our doubt. He does, however, desire to give us answers so we can be stronger in our faith.

Can Doubt Be a Good Thing?

When we think about doubts, we often think of the confusion and uncertainty that they bring. However, Scriptures says that God can take our questions and turn them into something good. Read James 1:5-6 and then consider these questions:

> What is the negative side of doubting? <u>There is confusion;</u> you are pulled in every direction; you are unstable.

> What is the positive side of doubting? God is willing to give us wisdom; He will give us the answers we are looking for.

> How can doubting be a good thing? <u>It can cause us to think</u> through issues and come to conclusions, which give us confidence and a stronger faith.

When doubt creeps in, we must be willing to search for the truth. As God reveals the answers to us, we can find confidence in His truth and our faith will be made stronger.

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