



Sermon-based small groups connect the week to the weekend!

Dig deeper into the talk each week, while getting connected, cared for and known. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life and do it with people just like you to support you on your journey.

Message Info: Rise Up: Through Doubt, 4/23/23 - Wrestling with doubt is something we all do. Going through rough times amplifies our questions. But asking questions is essential to growth. It pushes us to examine our faith; developing and strengthening it. Though at times, doubt can be dangerous. The difference is knowing how to handle it. (*Passages: John 20:24-29, Genesis 3, James 1:5-8, Matthew 11:2-3, Psalm 34:8*)

Discussion Questions: Take your time and dig into these questions.

Are there questions you struggle to ask? What holds you back? How long have you been wrestling with them? Do you bring them to God?

Read Genesis 3:1-13. What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

Here, we find how *not* to handle doubt. Eve didn't seek God when questioned by the serpent. She allowed the doubt to seriously shake foundational truths. It's crucial to work *through* doubt, and not succumb *to* it. Ask good questions and seek real answers; strong faith is an examined faith. Read James 1:5-8. What does this passage teach about doubt?

Read John 20:24-29. What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

Thomas, one of the "big twelve," had his doubts; even after *everything* he experienced. He boldly shared his uncertainty, and Jesus responded. It's easy to think we're all alone when life gets hard, but it's furthest from the truth. God is close to those who doubt. Can you relate to Thomas? When have you needed tangible evidence to believe?

God already knows the questions we've been hiding from. If you had all the answers and saw everything clearly, you wouldn't need faith. Just look at the greatest heroes & stories of faith - they always include big doubts, questions, and struggles. Everything in life takes faith. What questions do you need to ask honestly and faithfully?

Ask God to show you, but don't forget to look. Don't disconnect; give yourself the space and time to process, but utilize everything God has provided you to help in that process. Finally, take Jesus up on "taste and see." He will prove Himself.

Group Challenge: Plan to visit the Grace Free Church campus you don't usually attend for worship service.