

Doubting God

Leaving Christianity

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

“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?”
Matthew 14:28-31 NIV

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you ...”
Matthew 5:43-44 NIV

“... you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” Matthew 16:23 NIV

For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.
1 Peter 2:25 NIV

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Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What’s something that could make a difficult conversation feel safe?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- When you think about your conversations with others, is your goal usually to be right or to be loving? How do you feel about your response? What might happen if you focused even more on being loving?
- Read **Matthew 14:28-31**. What truths about Jesus’ character could help you see His question to Peter as an invitation instead of an accusation?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Share about how you typically handle doubt. What would it look like to view doubt as a tool to grow your faith?
- Take some time to talk about beliefs you’ve either questioned in the past or are currently questioning. How do you identify what’s true and what’s untrue?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for being kind and loving to us, even when we have doubts. Guide us and help us when it feels easier to walk away from You than to lean into You. Please show us anything we are believing as truth that isn’t actually true of You. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- [Watch the You’ve Heard It Said miniseries, Permission to Doubt to hear stories from people who have walked through doubt: \[www.go2.lc/YHISdoubt\]\(http://www.go2.lc/YHISdoubt\)](#)
- Start the *Doubting God* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/doubtingGod
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.