

THE SEASON OF DOUBT
#SermonSeasonOfDoubt
Growing In The Seasons Of Life - Part 5
Dr. Mark Jackson, July 30, 2017

2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are **often troubled**, but not crushed; **sometimes in doubt**, but never in despair; ⁹ there are many enemies, but we are never without a friend; and though badly hurt at times, **we are not destroyed**. (TEV)

Three Things That Can Cause You To Doubt God

1. YOUR CRITICS

Psalms 73:8-11 They **scoff at God and threaten his people**. How proudly they speak! ⁹ They boast against the very heavens, and their words strut through the earth. ¹⁰ And so **God's people are dismayed and confused**... **"Does God realize what is going on?"** they ask. (LB)

2. YOUR CONSCIENCE

1 Timothy 1:19 **Cling tightly to your faith** in Christ and **always keep your conscience clear**, doing what you know is right. For some people have disobeyed their consciences and have deliberately done what they knew was wrong. It isn't surprising that soon **they lost their faith** in Christ after defying God like that. (LB)

3. YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

Mark 4:38 Jesus was in the back of the boat with his head on a pillow, and he was asleep. His disciples woke him and said, "Teacher, **don't you care** that **we're about to drown**?" (CEV)

How To Deal With Your Doubts

1. ADMIT YOUR DOUBTS

Matthew 11:2-3 When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "**Are you the one** who was to come, or **should we expect someone else**?" (NIV)

John 20:25-27 The other followers told Thomas, "We saw the Lord." But Thomas said, "**I will not believe** it until I see the nail marks in his hands. And **I will not believe** until I put my finger where the nails were and put my hand into his side." ²⁶ A week later the followers were in the house again... Jesus came in and stood among them... ²⁷ Then

he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand here in my side. **Stop doubting and believe.**" (ICB)

2. **DOUBT YOUR DOUBTS**

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and **lean not on your own understanding.** (NIV)

3. **USE THE FAITH YOU HAVE**

Mark 9:24 ...I do believe; **help me overcome my unbelief!** (NIV)

Matthew 17:20 ...if you have **faith as small as a mustard seed**, you can say to this mountain, "Move from here to there" and it will move. **Nothing will be impossible for you.** (NIV)

1 John 5:13 My purpose in writing is simply this: that you who believe in God's Son will **know beyond the shadow of a doubt** that you have eternal life... (MSG)

Psalms 119:130 Understanding **your word brings light** to the minds of ordinary people. (CEV)