

Doubting God

Deconstructing Faith

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?"

Matthew 14:28-31 NLT

Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's."

Matthew 16:23 NLT

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1 Peter 2:25 NLT

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?
- What does the church need to do better to engage those who are questioning or deconstructing their faith instead of pushing them away?

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
- Find someone you know that is struggling with their faith and commit to walking with them through their doubts.