DOUBTING GOD—3 FACING YOUR INSECURITIES

09:55 am 5 Min. Count Down - VIDEO

10:00 am **LIVE Worship –

10:25 am **LIVE In House Welcome –

WELCOME to The Peak CC

Welcome our Church Online Platform -

We are so glad you could join us as we worship the Lord & expound on His Word.

If this is your 1st time or perhaps you've been with us before but haven't engaged... Please fill out

***Online Connect Card *** -> RightNow Media

10:30 AM **Announcements Video - Tithing

10:32am LIVE SHOT – Welcome - Pastor <u>Self Intro</u> -

Sunday School: 1st things 1st 9am Sundays 2nd floor.

<u>Next-Gen:</u>

Feb 5th9am Sundays BalconyFeb 16th7pm Grand Prix Mt Kisco

Life Groups Home Groups 7pm Mon Nights - coming soon - Host Family Needed

True North Youth Ranch - HAY DRIVE - sending out an e-mail

Missionary to Italy - Feb . 19th Rev. Joe & Mary Benecasa

As we look around us and see the state of affairs... *Inflation, job security, Natural Catastrophes*' ... Praying for Syria & Turkey 18,000 dead, *Chinese Spy Balloons, Satan worship at the grammys*....

Some people can find themselves <u>doubting God</u>— I Get it!

Doubt God occasionally—More often rather doubting G— *I Doubt myself*

Because I know the "me" that *no one sees*.

I know the voice in my head—that I'm glad no one hears.

The insecurities—Critical thoughts—Times I dislike myself.

Sometimes it's as small as—*I don't like <u>what</u> I said*. Other times—**Don't like "how" I said it**— Could be things — **I Did**— **I Didn't do!**

Worst of all—I know that <u>God</u> knows <u>all</u> my faults. *Strengths & weaknesses*

I know He loves me— Can't imagine why He'd use me.

If you've ever felt insecure, inadequate, insufficient-

Msg 4U.

All rest—Those who are—Confident—Assured—Best of best. Brightest of brightest—Top of class—VOTED Most likely succeed. Those of you who ARE the Cream of the Crop

Good news—God still use you.

Specializes in using people who, are broken, lost, insecure Those <u>WHO KNOW</u> they need

His presence—His power—To do His Purpose.

Opening Prayer

If God wants something done

Surely—He could find someone way better than me.

You may feel like....

Don't know a lot about Bible—Don't feel prepared share my faith.

Don't feel comfortable praying aloud— Much less leading Small Group

Limited Knowledge—Don't read Bible every day.

Then you may carry some of the *Early Christian Walk Syndrome*

Still cuss occasionally—Lose temper—Drink more should.

You know what you've done wrong—Who hurt—How fallen short.

Easy to Think—*After what I've done*—Why would God use me?

Remind you—G knew exactly what He was doing when made you.

Bumper sticker I saw—"God don't make no junk!" On a Hooptie that barely had a bumper LOL – Still TRUE

The History of Creation

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void; and <u>darkness</u> was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

 $h\bar{o}'\cdot\check{s}\check{e}k$: To Make dark, to dim, CHAOS...

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

He Spoke INTO the Darkness/Chaos/Dis-Order & He brought forth ORDER /

Remember what Paul said about us ... A life that was OUT of Order. In CHAOS and had no Rhyme or Reason....

... we are God's <u>masterpiece</u>. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the <u>good things</u> he <u>planned for us long ago</u>. Eph 2:10 NLT

What are you? *Masterpiece* You are God's workmanship! God's masterpiece!

masterpiece: *poiema* (poy'-ay-mah)—a creation with a designated purpose, workmanship, masterpiece. (poetry)

You are God's poetic statement—You're beautiful—Ur valuable.

You are <u>custom-designed</u>, <u>tailor-made by the Master's hand</u>. God gave you the <u>right personality</u>, <u>right gifts</u>, <u>right mindset</u>, <u>Right temperament</u>—Born at <u>right time</u>—To do the good works He planned before you were born—For you to do!

When devil tells you, God can't use you—You are a mess!

Shout back, "I was a mess, but now I'm Under Construction."

God's taking the Mess & turning it into a MESSAGE!!

WHO DOES GOD MOST OFTEN USE?

As we look carefully at Scripture, there are 3 types of people God chooses to do His will.

1) God uses the unlikely.

May remember, God told prophet Samuel

To appoint next king of Israel—Scripture says in

1 Sam 16:6-7 NIV

⁶ When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "<u>Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD</u>." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. <u>The LORD does not look at the things people look at</u>. People look at the outward appearance, <u>but the LORD looks at the heart</u>."

Love this—God is looking for the qualities people overlook!

One by one—Samuel looked at all the "qualified" candidates. Tall STRONG Trained Equipped

Arnold Shwartenegger Danny Devitto in TWINS

About give up—Father (Ben Jesse) said—There's one more—But ... Youngest—Jr Shepherd—Out in the fields walking w/the sheep!

David—Youngest—Least likely—G said, "<u>That's the one I choose</u>!"

• God loves to use those who are overlooked by others.

If you've ever felt overlooked—Like God wouldn't use, *Couldn't use you*.

Can I just remind you that I'm a walking miracle. I'm NO Different than any of YOU.

Struggle in the flesh, fall into temptations,

LIFE WAS UTTER CHAOS

2 time convicted violent Felon w/ 5 years in State & 12 years under supervision

It was 1995 when life became so DARK.. I was facing 25 to LIfe in State Prison w/ 7 codefendants.

& Then, God "said," & Out of THAT DARKNESS... Hallelujah

He Brought Forth this Light.

God specializes in using the unlikely to accomplish the impossible.

Encourage you—Stop believing what others say about you!

Believe what God says about you!

Who does God specialize using? (1) God uses the unlikely...

2) God uses the insecure.

May remember—Book of Judges—After the Israelites sinned. God gave them over into the hands of the evil Midianites. Guy named Gideon was insecure—Afraid—Hiding

Angel appears—Says—*The Lord is w/you, Mighty Warrior God has chosen you to rescue Israel from the Midianites.*"

You'd think Gideon would be like ...

Well, if an angel from God shows up & tells me I'm good— Well then—I'm Good!! Let's GO!!

But his insecurities shouted louder than God's affirmation.

"<u>But Lord</u>," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" Judges 6:15 NLT

For some of you, God is going to—<u>Call you</u>—<u>Stir you</u>—<u>Move you</u> to do something. Move you to ACTION.

To serve here at church—To share your faith— Be witness at work/school - Perhaps it may be in the form of Giving \$\$ to the work of the Church

You're gonna say, "*But Lord!*" Tell Him why you're not the best person for the job. I don't have enough \$\$, Time, Knowledge, Experience, Looks.. EXCUSES!!

Whenever God calls you—Devil's going to try to stop you!

One of his greatest tools is to attack your self-worth!

Think about it—If God didn't want to use you The devil wouldn't be fighting so hard against you!

Who do you think you are? Not ready! Not worthy! Not good enuff!

- Although that may be True... It really doesn't matter..

You may not have a lot of *confidence in yourself*—Good!

The word confidence comes from Latin *Con-fide*. (Pronounced cone)

(Con-means "with.") (Fide-means "faith.")

Having confidence—Doesn't mean you believe in you.

Real confidence is when you <u>put your faith</u> in what <u>God says about you</u>! Gideon said, "I am the least likely!"

Gideon was about to learn God often uses <u>the least</u> to <u>do the most</u>!

1. God uses the unlikely.

2. God uses the insecure.

3) God uses failures.

May remember, right after Jesus was arrested and Taken b4 the high priest, the disciples were scattered, confusion was in the camp. Peter sat down w/ some people by a fire to keep warm...

A Little girl pointed at Peter & said, "Hey, this guy was w/ Jesus!"

⁶⁰ Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ <u>The Lord turned</u> <u>and looked straight at Peter</u>. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." ⁶² And he went outside <u>and wept bitterly</u>.

Luke 22:60-62 NIV

Have you ever blown it? Big time?

Embarrassed—Ashamed—Insecure Feel unworthy.

Might have been a public failure—Lost temper/Anger— Bad financial decisions—Lied—Hurt someone close to you. Battled an addiction—Betrayed family—Crushed those you love.

Or it may be a "private" failure—currently struggling w/ Secret addiction.

Or w/ what you—*Did—Said*—Didn't get caught—Weighs on you daily.

Peter denied Jesus—What did J say to Peter after resurrection?

"You blew it—Can't ever trust you—Much less use you!"

No!!—Jesus loved Peter—Forgave— Used P reach insurmountable amount of people.

In fact, God chose P preach at Pentecost—Boldly proclaimed!

³⁸ ... "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit..." ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. Acts 2:38, 41 NIV Who better to preach about forgiveness than one forgiven of much?

God uses people who fail—*There aren't any other types around!*

<mark>(Flexible flow)</mark>—We all have our excuses!

Jacob was a cheater. Moses was a murderer. David had an affair. Jonah ran from God. Elijah was depressed.

Miriam was a gossip. Martha was a worrier Thomas was a doubter. Paul killed Christians Feel better?—God used them all.

God wants to use you—In fact—As your Local Pastor

Want to give you the opportunity to let God use you in our church.

If you're not serving—God is likely speaking to you even now.

Feel insecure—Unlikely—Too bad to serve in church.

Devil will tell you why you can't make a difference. God will tell you—in Christ—You can!

Devil will tell you what you're not—God tell you what you are.

You are the righteousness of God—In Christ.

Ambassador of Most High God—Masterpiece—Workmanship

Good works—God prepared in advance to do.

So, stop doubting yourself!

When you doubt yourself—You are really doubting God!

You are not what <u>you did</u>—Not what <u>they did to you</u> Not what they <u>said about you</u>—Not what <u>you think about you</u>.

If you are truly amazing—Best of best—Most perfect & holy. God can still use you—Prefers to use the rest of us who need Him.

If this was the 1st time that you really dedicated yourself to Jesus... Recognize Him as NOT only your Savior.... But also, your KING...

I'd like to invite you to connect w/ us..... @thepeakcc.com Visitors link... fill out that connect card...

"The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you, The Lord lift His countenance upon you, And give you peace."

I bless you in the Name of the Father, & of the SON, & of the Holy Spirit... Amen!!