

FBC Waterville

May 15, 2022

Kicking Doubt to the Curb

Big Idea: Doubt is dangerous and is to be rejected; it must be overcome by faith.

James 1:5-8

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

1. If (when) you don't know what to do, ask God. (v 5)

Wisdom is the practical use of knowledge in every day decision making.

Solomon tells us that _____ is the first step in gaining wisdom (Proverbs 1:7)

Our God:

1. Is a giving God
2. Gives _____
3. Gives without _____
4. Promises to answer

2. Approach God with complete confidence that He will answer. (v. 6)

We don't pray to a God of chance and happenstance—We pray to the sovereign creator and sustainer of the universe, _____ Him to act on our behalf.

Doubt exists when we call into question the character of the object of our faith. Therefore, doubting is an _____ on the very _____ of God. But James' point is that doubt calls into question our character.

Doubt weakens us and leaves us _____ to all sorts of worthless ideas.

3. Doubt disqualifies us from receiving the answer we desire. (v. 7)

A doubting believer chooses to live like an _____, refusing to act in trusting obedience to the goodness of God.

Faith receives because it trusts in God's goodness—even when it is _____. Doubt can't receive because it rejects God's goodness—trusting in what is _____.

4. Divided loyalties produce increased chaos in your life. (v. 8)

The double-minded man or woman is trying to live in two worlds—trying to please God on Sunday, and living like an unbeliever on Monday. Outwardly professing to have faith while inwardly embracing worldly desires.

A heart that is fully devoted to God finds _____ and satisfaction. A heart that doubts finds itself awash in increasing _____ and agitation.