

Doubt. It's all something we've dealt with. We instinctively may think it's wrong, because we're a Christian and have to keep the faith, right? Although, doubt can be a good thing, if you keep it honest. What's the difference between an honest doubter, verses a dishonest one?

Galileo said, "Doubt is the father of discovery." John had doubts about Jesus, but he was honestly trying to find answers. Jamie said, "An honest doubter admits having questions but is willing to look at the evidence honestly." Read **Luke 7:20-23**. Jesus gave John solid evidence. But notice, John went to the source. "John took his doubts to the source, and we too should take our doubts to Jesus." What happens if we don't take our doubts to Jesus? What happens if we do just about everything but that? Is there resolution there? Explain.

Jesus gives John evidence to investigate. Read **Romans 10:17**. It's important to check out the evidence and resolve your doubts with God's help. Jamie mentioned, "If you really have questions about the reality of Christianity, be honest enough, in your doubts, to investigate Jesus' claims on your own." What did you do when you had doubts? Why did you doubt? What verses helped you? Discuss.

Check out the claims of Jesus. Read **John 14:9**. Jesus claims to be God. But Jesus didn't just make claims about it, He proved it by living a perfect life. Read **Acts 2:22** and **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**. "No other person in history claims to have defeated death. Jesus predicted He would do it, and He did it. It makes Him unique. It sets Him above every religious founder. It proves He's Who He claimed to be; God in the flesh." How does this make you feel? What strikes you about Jesus most? There must be a sense of peace knowing Jesus wasn't mad when John questioned who He was. Is your faith strong? What seems to shake it?

It is not a sin to doubt. But it is important to take our doubts and fears to Jesus for He has mercy for people who doubt. "John the Baptist kept his faith and died as well as he lived, the greatest of the prophets." Can you learn from doubt? What do you think John the Baptist learned from investigating Jesus' claims? What have you learned? Explain.

Close by praying for Christians to be accepting and merciful like Jesus to those who doubt. Ask God to help grow your faith in Christ Jesus.