

Message: *"It's OK not to be OK Week 4 - Doubt and Discouragement"*

Scripture: Lamentations 1-3

"Now Thomas (also known as Didymus) one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'" John 20:24-25

"When they saw him, they worshiped him, but some of them doubted!" Matthew 28:17

"Be merciful to those who doubt." Jude 1:22

"How deserted lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations! She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave. Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are on her cheeks. Among all her lovers there is no one to comfort her. All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies." Lamentations 1:1-2

"...there is no one to comfort her." Lamentations 1:2b

TWO REASONS WHY THIS CALAMITY HAPPENED

1. THE CALAMITY WAS SELF-INFLICTED

"Jerusalem has sinned greatly and so has become unclean. All who honored her despise her, for they have all seen her naked; she herself groans and turns away." Lamentations 1:8

"Jerusalem has sinned greatly..." Lamentations 1:8a

2. THE CALAMITY IS BECAUSE GOD IS NOT DOING HIS JOB.

"I am the man who has seen affliction by the rod of the Lord's wrath. He has driven me away and made me walk in darkness rather than light; indeed, he has turned his hand against me again and again, all day long." Lamentations 3:1-3

"God surrounded me with hardship... He shut out my prayer... He made me a laughingstock... He weighed me down... He broke my body... He gave me bitter gall to drink... He pierced my heart... He put me in darkness." Lamentations 3:8-15

"I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:20-22