



JESUS is _____.

A top-down view of a wooden desk. In the center, a pair of black-handled scissors is open. To the left, a white rectangular piece of paper with the words "I CAN" written in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of the scissors, a smaller white square piece of paper with the letter "T" written in the same font. In the upper right, a white coffee cup filled with black coffee sits on a matching saucer. Next to it is a black pen and a pair of black-rimmed glasses. In the upper left, a portion of a silver laptop keyboard is visible. A small green plant is in the top right corner. The desk surface is made of dark wood planks.

I CAN

T

Overcoming Doubt

1. When You Walk with Christ, You will be Confronted with Obstacles To Your Faith.

σκανδαλίζω

skandalizō

To run into a barrier or obstacle and be repelled by it and turn back.

1. You Will Face Obstacles...

- God uses obstacles to test us and satan uses obstacles to tempt us.

“And coming to his hometown
he taught them in their
synagogue, so that they were
astonished, and said, “Where
did this man get this wisdom
and these mighty works?”

MATTHEW 13:54

“Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?” And they took **offense** at him.

MATTHEW 13:55–57

“So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”

JOHN 6:53

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take **offense** at this?"

JOHN 6:60–61

Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.” He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?”

MATTHEW 15:1–3

“You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

MATTHEW 15:7–9

And he called the people to him and said to them, "Hear and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person." Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were **offended** when they heard this saying?"

MATTHEW 15:10–12

1. You Will Face Obstacles...

- Jesus places barriers in front of people for the purpose of repelling those whose faith is not real, and to validate and strengthen the faith of the ones whose faith is real.

“But we preach Christ crucified,
a **stumbling block** to Jews and
folly to Gentiles, but to those
who are called, both Jews and
Greeks, Christ the power of
God and the wisdom of God.”

1 CORINTHIANS 1:23–24

1. You Will Face Obstacles...

- The Gospel is designed to offend those who will not believe.
- We must be willing to offend with the Gospel.

“But if I, brothers, still preach
circumcision, why am I still
being persecuted? In that
case the **offense** of the
cross has been removed.”

GALATIANS 5:11

Overcoming Doubt

2. How To Overcome Obstacles to Your Faith as You Follow Jesus.

2. How to Overcome Doubt

- Why Did John the Baptist Doubt?

2. How to Overcome Doubt

- Why Did John the Baptist Doubt?
 - Unfulfilled Expectations

2. How to Overcome Doubt

- Why Did John the Baptist Doubt?
 - Unfulfilled Expectations
 - Difficult Circumstances (Suffering)

“
... The works that I do in my
Father's name bear witness
about me,
”

JOHN 10:25

The image features a central circular inset with a dark green background, showing a vibrant forest scene with a waterfall. The text "You Are Blessed" is centered within this circle in a white, sans-serif font. The background of the entire image is a desert landscape with a waterfall, framed by large, textured rock formations on the left and right sides. The overall composition suggests a contrast between a lush, green environment and a dry, rocky one.

You Are Blessed



JESUS is _____.