

QUESTIONS | 2-28-16

REFLECT & DISCUSS

There are thoughts we think, values we live, and words we say that we think come from Jesus' teaching. In reality, Jesus never said them. Have you ever been misquoted or misunderstood? What happened? How did it make you look? How does it make Jesus look when Christians misrepresent Him? Today, we will consider that Jesus never said, "Don't question the faith." If Jesus never said this, why do we live as if He did? Why do we feel threatened when people ask skeptical questions about Christianity? How should we handle doubt? Why do we hesitate to ask questions?

ENGAGE

Jesus wasn't threatened by questions. He welcomed them, and He asked a lot of them...over 100 in the Gospels, in fact. Navigate to www.tinyurl.com/100jesusquestions. Instruct each person in your group to pick one of these colors: green, orange, red, blue, or purple. Make sure every color is chosen. Have each person scroll to their color on the infographic and randomly choose a question to read. Have each person read their question, and choose two people to answer these questions along with your group: To whom was Jesus directing His question? Why did He ask it? What was the result? Navigate to this passage in your Bibles for greater context.

READ: *John 6:47-52*

Imagine your small group leader started your meeting saying he/she is living bread from heaven and if you eat his/her flesh you will live forever. What would you think about him/her? A little crazy, right? Cannibalistic? In this passage, what question did the crowd ask? Were they confused? Doubtful? What do you do when you don't understand what Jesus is doing in your life? Do you doubt Him? Do you trust Him?

READ: *John 6:53-69*

In verse 60, the disciples really struggle with what Jesus is saying. They ask, "How can anyone accept it?" These hard questions can result in destructive doubt or they can catapult our faith forward. In this passage, who slides into destructive doubt? What do they do? Whose faith is catapulted forward? Why was what Peter said in verses 68-69 key to helping him catapult forward? Why is it key to moving you forward?

CHALLENGE

Choose to live in what you do know instead of the chaos of what you don't know. Approach every hard question and moment of doubt as an opportunity to trust Christ in a deeper way as you search for answers.

PRAYER

Jesus, there are things You say and do that I simply do not understand. But I know You and I trust You. You have proven that You are faithful over and over again. I choose to let my questions and doubts catapult me forward as I search for answers and trust you in a deeper way. Help me in my unbelief!