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## **Honest to God: What to Do With Our Doubts**

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**Matthew 11:1-3 (NIV):** After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee. When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

### **Five Keys That Help Us Know What to Do With Our Doubts**

#### **Key #1: Recognize That True Believers Can Experience Doubt**

**John 20:25 (NIV):** 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."

**Matthew 28:17 (NIV):** When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

#### **Key #2: Identify What's Driving Your Doubt**

**Matthew 11:2-3 (NIV):** When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

#### **Two Main Drivers Behind Doubt**

A. Unexplained Suffering

B. Unmet Expectations

#### **Key #3: Refuse to Go It Alone**

**Matthew 11:2-3 (NIV):** When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

#### **Key #4: Realize God Can Handle Your Deepest Doubts**

**Matthew 11:4-6 (NIV):** Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

#### **Two Wrong Approaches to the Doubts of Others**

A. Doubt Shaming

**Jude 1:22 (NIV):** Be merciful to those who doubt...

B. Doubt Celebrating

#### **Key #5: Entrust Yourself to Jesus**

**Matthew 11:4-6 (NIV):** Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

**Matthew 11:6 (NIV):** "Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me. "