

“John the Baptist: ***What Do I Do In Weakness/Doubt?***” (Part 4)
Luke 7:18-35; Matthew 11:1-6

*“There is a great difference between **doubt** and **unbelief**. **Doubt** is a matter of **the mind** and **unbelief** is a matter of **the heart**. **Doubt draws us** to Jesus for truth. **Unbelief keeps us** from going to Jesus for truth. **Doubt wants cured** and **unbelief wants to stay sick.**”*

- Three tests that can lead us to a higher *Delight* or *Doubt* in Christ if handled Biblically:
 - Hardship, Suffering, or Pain: “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.” (2 Corinthians 4:16-17)
 - A Frustration of Our Lack of Knowledge About Christ: “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.” (2 Peter 3:18)
 - An Expectation of Harshness, Instead of Compassion and Mercy, From God: “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” (Hebrews 4:16)
- John’s Question: (Luke 7:18-23)
 - John was confused, defeated in prison, and doubting. When he was in this condition he went to Jesus, he didn’t sit in unbelief.
 - Jesus responded to John’s doubt with Scripture, namely, a fulfillment of Scripture (Isaiah 35:5-6; 61:1). This gives us a means to deal with doubt, “*What does the Bible say?*” (Psalm 119:67-68,71-72)
 - **“Blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.”**: Despite your circumstance, will you continue to believe? Will you have faith and trust?
- Jesus’ Testimony of John: (Luke 7:24-28)
 - Jesus confirms John’s message, his firm and unshakeable faith, and his calling. But that doesn’t mean that John has no weaknesses, he’s a man. Jesus again uses Scripture, not to just validate that He is the Messiah, but that John was His forerunner (Malachi 3:1).
 - **“Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”**: We, as New Covenant believers (Ezekiel 36:26-27), have privileges that no Old Testament Saints, including John, never had.
 - 1) The full revelation of God’s Word. 2) The indwelling Holy Spirit. 3) A greater understanding of eternity. 4) The example of Jesus.
- Jesus’ Rebuke of Israel: (Luke 7:29-35)
 - Two Groups: A group that accepted John’s message and repented and a group that saw no need of repentance, they were self-righteous.
 - Two Messages: We need the message of the wickedness of sin, mourning, and need of repentance. We also need the message of grace and mercy, forgiveness, rejoicing, and encouragement.
 - **“Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”**: There are two kinds of children; children of **wisdom** and children of **folly**. People who believe or people who do not believe. **Our lives** prove whose children we are!

Worship: Be Thou My Vision — Norton Hall Band

He Will Hold Me Fast — Norton Hall Band

How Great Thou Art — Various Artists

Closing Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) — Chris Tomlin

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

★ **DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of August we are collecting monetary donations for HeartCry Missionary Society, one of the global missionaries that we support as a church body. The HeartCry Missionary Society works with indigenous missionaries whom God has raised up for Himself in some of the most remote places on the earth. It is their goal to provide whatever training and resources necessary to advance the Gospel through these indigenous missionaries around the world. For more information about HeartCry and their work around the world, please see the bulletin board on the back table. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for HeartCry.

★ **BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism service will be on Sunday, August 20th. If you have any questions about being baptized or if you are interested in being baptized, please see Pastor Jeremy or one of the other Elders!

★ **FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, August 13th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the entryway, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and the fellowship with us!

★ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Two of our ministries are in need of more volunteers:

•**Children's Ministry:** If you are a church member and interested in serving the body by volunteering to serve in the Children's Ministry, we would love to have you join this ministry! We are in need of people who are able to serve on both Thursdays and Sundays — our goal is to get enough volunteers that we can get back to a 6 week rotation on the Children's Ministry schedule! If you have any questions about this ministry or if you are interested in serving in this ministry, please see Kalen or Courtney Dees.

•**Cleaning Ministry:** Our Cleaning Ministry is also in need of a few volunteers. If you are an able bodied church member and are willing and able to serve on a team to clean the church once every 4 weeks for one hour, we would love to have you join this ministry! If you have any questions about this ministry or if you are interested in serving in this ministry, please see Krystal Scarberry.

Account Balance: \$34,658.06 June Balance: \$34,569.94	Weekly Budget: \$3,463
Total Giving: July 2	\$4,450.00
Total Giving: July 9	\$2,325.60
Total Giving: July 16	\$3,286.00
Total Giving: July 23	\$2,618.00
Total Giving: July 30	\$2,041.00