

**Conversations Jesus Had
John The Baptist Experiences Doubt
Pastor Steve**

Key Thought of the Day

Doubt can either _____ your faith... or _____ you to greater faith.

Conversation of the Day

The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. So John called for two of his disciples, and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, "Are you the Messiah we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?"

John's two disciples found Jesus and said to him, "John the Baptist sent us to ask, 'Are you the Messiah we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?'" At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind.

Then he told John's disciples, "Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor." And he added, "God blesses those who do not fall away because of me." Luke 7:18-23 NLT

John 1:24-34

Reality Check

If John the Baptist can experience spiritual doubt... _____.

Key Verse of the Day

"What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes." The father instantly cried out. "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!" Mark 9:23-24 NLT

DEALING WITH DOUBT

The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. Luke 7:18a NLT

Conversation Principle #1

Sometimes when God acts _____ doubt can arise.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT

We Respond To Doubt By...

- Realizing _____ are not our ways.

So John called for two of his disciples, and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, "Are you the Messiah we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?" Luke 7:18b-19 NLT

Conversation Principle #2

Sometimes doubting is _____.

We Respond To Doubt By...

- Understanding that doubt and _____ are not mutually exclusive.

When Jesus saw that the crowd of onlookers was growing, he rebuked the evil spirit. "Listen, you spirit that makes this boy unable to hear and speak," he said. "I command you to come out of this child and never enter him again!"

Then the spirit screamed and threw the boy into another violent convulsion and left him. The boy appeared to be dead. A murmur ran through the crowd as people said, "He's dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him to his feet, and he stood up. Mark 9:25-27 NLT

Grab This!

Doubt can be healthy... if we respond in the appropriate way... because doubt can drive us to _____ more deeply.

John's two disciples found Jesus and said to him, "John the Baptist sent us to ask, 'Are you the Messiah we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?'"

At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind.

Then he told John's disciples, "Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor." Luke 7:20-22 NLT

Conversation Principle #3

Sometimes doubt occurs because we fail to recognize what _____.

"At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses and evil spirits and he restored sight to many who were blind."

Grab This!

Doubt can cloud our ability to see Jesus at _____.

For we live by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 NIV

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 NLT

We Respond To Doubt By...

- Determining that as we journey through doubt... _____... we will ultimately end up being more convinced, more connected and more committed to Jesus.

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. 1 John 4:16a

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love... nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38a, 39b NLT

The Bottom Line

Doubt might be a reality that we will deal with from time to time, but when we press through, our faith is _____.

For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ. Hebrews 3:14 NLT

Never Forget This!

Jesus doesn't want you to _____!