

Sincere Doubt

Part 3 of *Taboo* series

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Text: John 11:1-16; Luke 6:13-15; John 20:24-29

When sincere doubt shows up, it's usually after...

- A first big test of your faith.
- A painful and disappointing experience.

Taboo statements:

- It's okay to doubt God.
- God is okay with your doubt.

Observations about sincere doubt:

- We tend to doubt less in the existence of God than we do in the character of God.
- Jesus knew that you would have seasons of doubt and yet he chose you and invited you to follow Him anyway.
- Jesus doesn't push us away when we doubt; he invites us to push into Him.

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

John 20:24-29

Ways to push into Jesus...

- Get around people whose faith is strong.
- Go to God's word & immerse yourself in the truth of who God is.
- Worship him despite how you feel.

Next Steps

Take some time to answer the following questions with your spouse, children, or small group...

- How was your 4th of July?
- Have you ever had seasons in your life where you struggled with sincere doubt? Tell about what brought it on and how (*or if*) you were able to move from doubt to faith?
- Read John 20:24-29. Why did Thomas have a difficult time believing? How was he able to overcome his doubt?
- When people are faced with sincere doubt, they typically pull away & isolate themselves. Why do you think this is? How can you guard against this happening to you? Is there anyone in your life who is in this place who you need to reach out to?
- Pray for any you know who are struggling with sincere doubt.