



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Doubts | August 22, 2021

Summary

Having doubts can be good and healthy—as long as we continue to pursue God as we move through our doubts.

Scripture

The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the Midianites. Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds. Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples invaded the country. They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza and did not spare a living thing for Israel, neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys. They came up with their livestock and their tents like swarms of locusts. It was impossible to count them or their camels; they invaded the land to ravage it. Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the LORD for help.

When the Israelites cried out to the LORD because of Midian, he sent them a prophet, who said, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians. And I delivered you from the hand of all your oppressors; I drove them out before you and gave you their land. I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.’ But you have not listened to me.”

The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, “The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.”

“Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.”

The LORD turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?”

“Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.”

The LORD answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."

Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me. Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you."

And the LORD said, "I will wait until you return." –Judges 6:1-18 (NIV)

Let's Start

Do you consider yourself more skeptical or gullible?

Gratitude and Prayer

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to pray for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

Let's Talk

1. At the beginning of Judges 6, what is the situation for the Israelites and how are they responding to it?
2. Do you see yourself in Gideon? How?
3. When have you experienced the most doubts about your faith?
4. Were your doubts resolved? Did you continue pursuing God during this time? What did you find was helpful as you pursued answers to your doubts?
5. Pastor Heather shared the following points to help address doubts we face. What, in your experience, has been the most helpful? What point do you need to be reminded of most when facing doubts?

Ask yourself the question: Is my view of God limited?

Express your doubts to God and someone else.

Remember what the Lord has done.

Instead of demanding signs from God, look around for the proof God has already given.

Don't let your doubt be your "but."

