

# Prayer & Doubts

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3 May - Ron Aulbach

Pray - Trusting God in a Hurting World

## LIFE

Building life giving relationships

**CATCH UP:** Spend 20-30 minutes catching up with each member of the group and sharing prayer requests.

**YOUR STORY:** When you need a quiet space what do you do or where do you go?

## GOD

Growing more like Jesus together

### ENGAGE THE MESSAGE:

1. Jesus says in John 10:27 that “my sheep hear my voice.” What picture or image comes to mind when you read that verse? Do you struggle with the concept that God would guide or direct? Is your primary focus when you come to prayer to talk or listen? Are you weired out by people who say “God said” or “God told me.” Do you think these are overused or underused in your experience with the church and Christians?
2. Pastor Ron shared the story from Matthew 11:2-5 of John the Baptist having doubts of Jesus being “the one,” true messiah. He was one of the closest people to the miracles of Jesus, yet he had doubts. How do you handle your doubts, whether they be of unanswered prayer or if prayer is even effective? What substitutes (i.e. money, relationships, or busyness) have you made in place of trusting the sufficiency of Jesus?
3. Jesus tells the disciples of John to report that “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.” Ron shared that often we miss “hearing” God because we are looking for him to do what we expect. How do you at times only see what you want and hear what you want? Is there a tendency for you to rely and want the victorious king Jesus over the compassionate healer Jesus?
4. Jesus gave a blessing at the end of this exchange, saying “Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” What doubts do you allow to trip you up? Who are you talking to about your doubts?

## OTHERS

Loving God and loving others

**CHALLENGE:** Ask one of your doubts to a trusted friend, mentor, or pastor this week. Doubts are ok and good to wrestle with, and often easier to wrestle with someone else!

**PRAY:** Join in one of the prayer challenges. Are you out walking lately? Why not add a little prayer time to it. We are currently prayer walking as a church, check it out on the website under resources "BLESS", or on our social media. Invite someone else to join the challenge.