

THE QUESTION

Matthew 11:1-6

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. JOHN'S CONDITION
2. JESUS' RESPONSE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick two or three of these to talk about as a group

1. What was most helpful for you from this week's message? Why?
2. In Matthew 11:1-6, we see that even John the Baptist had questions and doubts about Jesus. How have your questions and doubts been handled by your friends, family or church? How do you wish your doubts would be treated? What does it look like for us to respond to doubts and questions like Jesus?
3. What questions and doubts do you have about Jesus?
4. The way John phrased his question about Jesus makes it clear that if we allow our doubt to make us run from Jesus we will never stop running. We will always look for someone or something else to provide what only Jesus can provide. Do you know yourself well enough to know what things or people you look to instead of Jesus for comfort, meaning, purpose and hope? If so, what are some of those things/ people?
5. John, like many others, assumed that the messiah would be a more obviously powerful deliverer like King David and the other previous deliverers in Israel's history. But Jesus wasn't all that he expected. We all have inaccurate assumptions about who Jesus is and what our lives should look like if we follow him. What assumptions of yours have been shattered as you've followed Jesus? In other words, how has Jesus "offended you" by being different than you think he should be or by making your life different than you think it should be?
6. John the Baptist was in prison for Jesus and had questions and doubts. Years later, Paul the apostle was in prison for Jesus and joyfully sang hymns. What did Paul know that John didn't? Why was he more able to face prison than John? How can we be like Paul and face difficulty with steadfast joy?
7. Jesus did not come to bring judgement, but to take judgement in our place. What does this teach us about God?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: When you know what Jesus faced for you, you can face anything.