

When Everything is Unravelling

I Want to Believe

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SERMON SUMMARY

Faith is a gift of God's grace that invites us to trust in Jesus' redemptive work. Through Scripture, community, obedience, and trials, we strengthen this trust, growing in our allegiance to Jesus.

KEY VERSES

1 Peter 1:8

"...and though you have not seen Him, you love Him..."

SERMON NOTES

<https://bible.com/events/49424647>

1. The theologian N.T. Wright would define faith as "trust and loyalty to Jesus as the risen Messiah and Lord". Matthew Bates would say, "faith is allegiance to Jesus as King, involving mental assent, public profession, and embodied loyalty through ongoing obedience". Talk about these definitions with your group. Try to come up with examples or expanded definitions of each bolded word.
2. Read Genesis 12:1-4. When have you felt called to take a step of faith without clarity on the destination (e.g., a job change, relationship, or spiritual decision)?
3. When have you struggled to trust God because of fear or obstacles? How can remembering God's past faithfulness help you move forward in faith today?
4. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. If faith is a gift of God, what do we say about people who have no faith?
5. Read Romans 10:17. Share a time when a Bible verse or sermon sparked or deepened your trust in God. How does this shape your view of faith as a gift from Him?
6. How has a Christian friend, mentor, or small group strengthened your faith? What are some ways you can invest in community to grow your trust in God?
7. Trials and challenges can strengthen our faith. Share a trial that tested your faith but ultimately strengthened it.

PRAYER EXERCISE

This series is partly for people whose past beliefs feel like they are unravelling.

Has anyone in the group felt like this has been happening to them? Pray for one another, asking God to strengthen your faith.