

Barrier of Doubt
Wk 5

Purpose: For students to understand that the doubt can become a barrier to what God wants to do with us and through us.

Passage (s): Judges 6-7, Jn. 20:24-31

Major Emphasis: Judges 6:11-32, Jn. 20:25-27

Topic: Barrier of Doubt

Ricks Devotional: Doubt is one of those things that few would really want to discuss. Although there are some long range benefits to dealing with doubt and working through it, there are usually negative connotations that accompany doubt. It's important to understand that doubt is the opposite of faith and that "w/out faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6). Because doubt is part of life and most of the time the sinful nature, God understands our doubt and meets us where we are at, but the question for us is are we willing to step out and believe what He says, following through with our actions or will we continue to make excuses of why "it" (whatever it might be) won't work.

This is one of the few things in our spiritual journey that can be solved by actions or "the doing" which stems out of our being or our relationship w/ God. In order to do, or live out the lifestyle of "faith w/out works is dead" (James 2:14-26) we need to know to be in tune with God so that we know what He is calling us to do and then step out in it.

Small Group:

Option 1

Discuss some of the ways that our faith can be increased by doubts, look out both passages and see what happened in order for their faith to be increased by their doubt.

1. Evidence was presented, based on their heart condition
2. Evidence was accepted

You may also want to look at Mt. 11 and look at Johns doubts.

Option 2

Discuss and work through some specific steps of faith that individual students are facing.

Possibilities

1. Forgiving people who get on your nerves
2. Going out of your way for someone you don't like
3. Being a part of a servant team