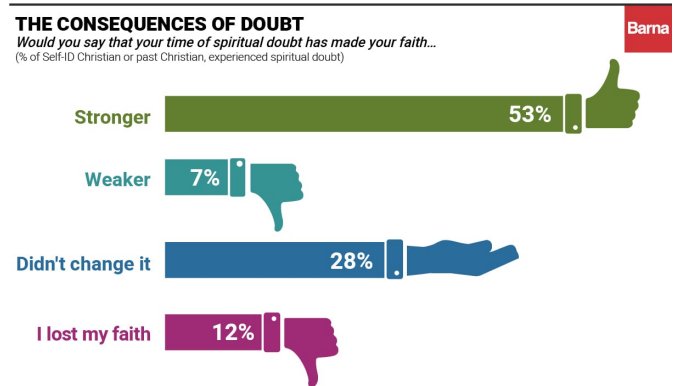


I Have Some Doubts!

“Disillusioned” Series – Part 1

Connect question: If you could relive one year of your life, what year would you choose and why?

Introduction: In a recent Barna Research Poll, American Christians stated that it is common to experience spiritual doubt when it comes to their faith. Most adults (65%) have experienced doubt. Just over one-quarter (26%) say they still experience spiritual doubt, while four in 10 (40%) say they have experienced doubt in the past but have worked through it. Only about one-third (35%) claim to have never experienced it at all.



The graph to the left illustrates the consequences of experiencing doubt. Which one of the above stats surprises you most? Why?

Read: Luke 7:18-23

Luke 7:18 The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. So John called for two of his disciples,
Luke 7:19 and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?”
Luke 7:20 John’s two disciples found Jesus and said to him, “John the Baptist sent us to ask, ‘Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?’”
Luke 7:21 At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind.
Luke 7:22 Then he told John’s disciples, “Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.”
Luke 7:23 And he added, “God blesses those who do not fall away because of me.”

Discussion:

Why do you suppose that John the Baptist, in this season of his ministry, wondered if Jesus was the “true” Messiah?

What are some life events that have caused you to doubt?

Give an example of how the source of doubt might be an “intellectual” issue. Provide an example where a “moral” issue might incite doubt.

John wants proof that this Jesus is the One. How did Jesus provide that proof?

A game plan for tackling doubt:

1. Look at Who Jesus is. How do I observe who Jesus is today?
2. Look to what Jesus is doing. What intentional actions/steps can I take to see Jesus at work in changing lives?
3. Ask for God's blessings as you stand in relationship with Christ. In a fierce trial that is of God's design, what blessings could you ask?

Share with the group what has worked for you in turning doubts into strengths.