



## Under the Circumstances

### Part 3: What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do

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#### Big Idea

Doubt doesn't have to be an off-ramp to faith; bring it into the journey with Jesus.

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#### Key Scriptures

- Matthew 11:2–6; 11
  - Matthew 4:12–13
  - Mark 6:18–20
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#### Discussion Questions

- If your week were a weather report, what would it be and why?" (sunny, foggy, scattered showers, thunderstorms, etc.)
- Share one tiny win from this week (found a park, finished a task, good coffee). Prime the room with gratitude.
- What's a platitude you've heard in tough times that didn't help? Why?
- **Read Matthew 11:2–6**
  - What do you notice about John's honesty? What do you notice about Jesus' reply (reports of God at work... but no rescue for John)?

- Have you ever been disappointed with God or felt his silence? When? (Share to your comfort level.)
  - Why might Jesus affirm John (11:11) and still not free him? What does that do to simplistic “cause-and-effect” faith?
  - Discuss Jesus’ line: “Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” What might “not stumbling” look like this week?
  - The New Testament documents the doubts of key figures (including Jesus’ “favorites”). How does that normalize your own questions?
  - Share a person whose faith inspires you. Does their story come from an “easy life” or a “hard life”?
  - Why are faith-in-spite-of-hardship stories so inspiring? Why don’t we assume their faith was misplaced?
  - A friend struggles to believe because of their circumstances. What would you say to them—and do you believe it for yourself?
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### **Challenge Question (For Takeaway):**

#### **1) Honest Prayer (daily):**

- “Jesus, today I’m doubting \_\_\_\_\_. Help me not to stumble when you don’t act as I expect.” (See Matt 11:6.)

#### **2) Spot the Good:**

- Keep a short list of where you hear/see God at work around you (even if not for you yet). Share one item with a friend.

#### **3) Memorize:**

- Hebrews 4:16.