

Why should I consider Jesus? I'm not sure God even exists. Isn't the world a better place without religion? I can't see myself becoming a Christian.

Why I'm a Christian: Doubting our Doubts

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

For LifeGroup training and resources, go to MidtownLifeGroups.com

2. Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan, to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

3. Scripture & Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

i. Scripture Discussion

Primary Passages: Romans 1:16-20

In the first week of the series, we looked at Romans 1:16-20. This week, we'll look at it again with a fresh perspective from this week's sermon.

For resources on how to study the Bible, be in community, and more spiritual practices, go to FollowingJesusTogether.com

Read **Romans 1:16-20** out loud.

Spend some time silently reflecting and journaling the following questions as a LifeGroup.

- What stands out from the passage?
- What does this passage reveal to us about God?
- What does this passage reveal to us about people?

Share with one another what you thought, reflected, and wrote about.

ii. Sermon Discussion

What stood out to you from the sermon?

In the sermon, we said the following on the nature of doubt:

- Doubts are incognito beliefs
- Doubts are socially formed
- Doubts are not neutral

Which of these is the most insightful for you on the nature of your doubts? Why?

In times of doubt, have you found doing the spiritual practices to be helpful? (regularly Bible reading and prayer, attending weekly Gatherings, regularly serving, prioritizing LifeGroup, etc)

In what ways has this series helped you wrestle with doubt?

Is anyone going through a particularly difficult season of doubt? Let's take time now to pray for you.

To learn more on this topic, go to WhyImAChristian.com

4. Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- How are you abiding with Jesus (Bible reading and prayer) this week? (For resources on how to abide with Jesus, go to FollowingJesusTogether.com/abide)
- What sin do you need to confess? What are you struggling to trust Jesus with this week? How can you give Him control of it? (As people confess sin, make sure to remind one another of the good news Jesus offers. If need be, use the worksheet "Go-to Verses for Gospel Fluency" at FollowingJesusTogether.com/confession)

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins to God in prayer and pray for each other. **Pray** for the Spirit to work in you as you take steps of repentance.