

SEASONS

SERMON-BASED QUESTIONS

JANUARY 20 + 21, 2024

MY STORY

1. What was your favorite memory of the holiday season?
2. If you could have dinner with anyone (living or dead) at your table, who would it be and why?
3. Growing up, who were you closest to in your family? Explain.
4. If you were given an unexpected few hours of free time, how would you spend it?
5. Of the phrases below, which ones do you believe and which ones do you doubt? (*Answers below*)
 - a. Penguins can smell toothpaste from several miles away.
 - b. In Tokyo, a bike travels faster than a car to get from point A to point B.
 - c. Japan has square watermelons so they stack better to save space.
 - d. On average, 20 banks are robbed each day.
 - e. You are more likely to get stung by a bee in windy weather.
 - f. A violin contains 70 pieces of wood.

(a. false; b. true; c. true; d. true; e. false; f. true)

DIGGING DEEPER

As Life Groups jump back into session, Heights is in the middle of a sermon series titled "Seasons". Each week, we have looked closer at a specific season in our lives and those in Scripture. This weekend, Pastor John taught on seasons of doubt. Through these questions, we will look at some stories from the Gospels that deal with seasons of doubt.

6. As a group, read Mark 9:14-27 and answer the following questions:
 - a. What are the main ideas, the main points, of this story in Mark?
 - b. What do you think is the apex, or climax, of this story?
 - c. Reread verse 24.
 - What stands out to you most in this specific verse?

■ What do you hear in this father's words to Jesus?

7. Read Matthew 11:1-6 together as a group. Discuss the following questions:
 - a. How would you summarize this exchange between John's disciples and Jesus?
 - b. Why do you think John sent his disciples to pose this question to Jesus?
 - c. What is your initial reaction to Jesus's response to the question? Explain.
8. Read a part of story of "Doubting Thomas" in John 20:24-29 together and discuss the following questions:
 - a. What stands out to you most in this passage and why?
 - b. In what ways can you relate to Thomas?
 - c. Discuss what you believe the source of Thomas's doubt is.
9. With each of the specific Gospel stories above, how did Jesus respond to the individuals as they were in a position/season of doubt?
10. From these passages and this discussion, what do we learn about doubt and our response to it?
11. In seasons of doubt, what practical and intentional things can we place in our lives that combat withdrawal?