



## Be Courageous

Title: ...in the face of doubt  
Date: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Reading: Matthew 11:1-6

### Doubt

How good are you at making decisions? What factors slow down your decision making? What is the difference between fear and doubt when it comes to making a decision?

In Matthew 3, John the Baptist was crystal clear and utterly convinced that Jesus was the Messiah. However by chapter 11, this spiritual heavy-weight was wrestling with serious doubt. He sends people to ask Jesus, “are you the Messiah?”

Jesus’ response to John’s question and doubt is not judgement or condemnation, but direction to help deal with doubt.

### See and hear all that God is doing

John was after a clear ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer to his question, which Jesus does not give. Do you agree that “a single answer does not dispel doubt”? How does widening our view of what God has done and is doing help address doubt?

### Speak about it together

Do you ever think/feel that you are the only one who has doubts? Why is it helpful to speak about our doubts? “Faith and doubt are not opposites” – do you agree? When we speak together about what God has done and is doing, what impact does that have on your doubts and faith levels?

### Faith is still required

Jesus also gives John the Baptist a warning in verse 6. ‘Let Jesus be Jesus’. John was at risk of allowing his view of Jesus stop him from seeing and following the real Jesus. Have you ever doubted Jesus because he has not done things the way you think he should? How do we keep following Jesus, along the journey of faith, when we encounter questions and doubts?



## Notes