

## Session 5: Hindrances to Faith

Unbelief = believing something other than what God has said

Fear, Doubt and wavering are a sign of unbelief.

*Romans 4:20 “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,”*

*Mark 5:36*

*Mark 11:23*

*James 1:6-7*

If there is wavering, if there is doubt, we cannot expect to receive from God because that doubt, that wavering, counteracts faith. Unbelief will cut off the flow of God's grace in your life.

*Matthew 17:19-20 “Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”*

*Matthew 10:1, 8 “And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease...Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”*

*Luke 9:6 “So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.”*

How does unbelief come and what do we do about it?

**Ways Unbelief Comes:**

- 1) Ignorance -willful rejection of truth or not knowing (Hosea 4:6)

**-This unbelief goes away by getting good teaching, revelation knowledge, and renewing our mind to the truth of the Word of God**

- 2) Wrong Teaching

“So many good Christians have been so indoctrinated in unbelief that the truth of God’s goodness sounds like error to them.” Barry Bennett

**-This unbelief also goes away by getting good teaching, revelation knowledge, and renewing our mind to the truth of the Word of God**

- 3) Natural unbelief

- Fear/Experience in the natural that comes from a hardened spiritual heart that is ruled by the carnal (the 5 senses)

*Hebrews 3:8-12 “Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’ Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;”*

*Mark 6:51-52 “And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered. For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened.*

*Galatians 5:17*

*Romans 8:5-6*

*Mark 9:17-20*

Where did their unbelief come from?

*Mark 9:21-29*

**Matthew 17:21 - this kind (which kind?), this kind of unbelief goes out by prayer and fasting**

Galatians 5:24-25

4) Offense (hurt feelings)

**Offended** = (Thayer's Greek lexicon) to cause a person to begin to distrust and desert one whom he ought to trust and obey, to see in another what I disapprove of and what hinders me from acknowledging his authority

**Oxford English Dictionary** = feeling upset, annoyed, or resentful because of something that was done

*Mark 6:1-6 "Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."*

*Matthew 13:58 "Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief."*

*James 3:16*

*Matthew 18:15*

This kind goes out by dealing with the offense God's way and then moving forward in forgiveness.