“Lord, I Believe – I Think: When God Seems Far off”

Matthew 11:2-6

Notes

* “My God, I have no faith. I dare not utter the words and thoughts that crowd my heart, afraid to uncover them because of the blasphemy. If there be God, please forgive me. When I try to raise my thoughts to heaven, there is such convicting emptiness that those very thoughts return like sharp knives and hurt my very soul. I am told God loves me, and yet the reality of darkness and coldness and emptiness is so great, nothing touches my soul.” (Mother Theresa)
* “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)
* “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” (Matthew 11:3).
* “But stuck alone in this putrid cell he was assaulted by horrible, accusing thoughts. What if he had been wrong? There had been many false prophets in Israel. What made him so sure that he wasn’t one? What if he had led thousands astray? ... The thought of being executed for the sake of righteousness and justice he could bear. But he could not bear the thought that he might have been wrong about Jesus. His one task was to prepare the way of the Lord. If he had gotten that wrong, his ministry, his life, was in vain.” (John Bloom)
* “I believe there are at least three kinds of doubt: intellectual doubt, emotional doubt, and moral doubt. Intellectual doubt is when our minds are unsure whether the teachings of Christianity are true. Emotional doubt is most often associated with pain. It’s when we don’t feel like Christianity is true. Moral doubt, the third kind of doubt, usually happens when we are tempted to disbelieve Christianity because we don’t want it to be true” (Wade Bearden)
* If you have struggles with faith, follow John’s example, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about it.
* If you have struggles with faith, look around for where \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* “Go and tell John what you hear and see…” (Matthew 11:6).
* God knows that we will have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.