

SERMON NOTES

May 16 & 17, 2026

Reasonable Doubt: About Jesus and the Church

Reasons People Are Done with Jesus and the Church:

John

6:66

1. _____ of Jesus **John 6:60 | Matthew 5:29 | Matthew 5:39**

- Jesus calls us to _____ that he commanded **Matthew 28:20**

2. _____ of God

3. _____ of Churches

- It's easy to lose faith in Jesus when you _____

4. _____ of Christians

- "Actor" (Greek) hupokrites - tell a story _____ **Matthew 23:23**

- Hypocrisy is not just a Christian problem it's _____.

5. _____ of Christianity

- Deconstructing Faith: _____ what is untrue with what is true.

Matthew 5:43-44 | John 6:67-68 | 1 Corinthians 15:17

- The goal of faith is _____ **John 17:3**

- We come to find and know Jesus _____ **John 6:69 | Hebrews 13:5**

Life Steps

Reasonable Doubt: About Jesus and the Church | May 18-24, 2026

Monday

John 6:35, 47-52, 60, 66

Reflect: Have you ever walked away or thought about walking away from your faith? If so, why and what brought you back? If not, what is the most challenging aspect of following Jesus?

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Tuesday

Matthew 28:20a

Reflect: Some people leave Jesus because his teaching is hard. When it comes to the teachings of Jesus, most of us pick and choose what we are going to practice, and we ignore the rest. What do you believe to be the hardest teaching of Jesus that you tend to ignore or slough off? If you need help identifying his teaching, scan through the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5, 6 & 7.

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Wednesday

Psalms 13:1-4

Reflect: Some people leave Jesus because of the silence of God. Recall a time when it didn't seem that God answered your prayers in a timely fashion or the way you asked or hoped. How did God's silence impact your faith and your relationship with God? Think of someone who might be struggling with their faith because of God's silence. What will you do to encourage them?

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Thursday

Colossians 3:12-14

Reflect: Some people leave Jesus because of the failures of church people. The people who make up The Church are not always clothed as Paul instructs. It is easy to lose faith in Jesus when you lose faith in the church. Identify some church-people behaviors that challenge your faith and love for The Church.

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Friday

Matthew 23:13-15

Reflect: Some people leave Jesus because of the hypocrisy of Christians. What do you think are the prevalent hypocrisies Jesus would call out in the church today? As a follower of Jesus, identify any habits or behaviors in your own life that might cause someone to question the goodness of God or the value of being connected to a church.

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Saturday

Matthew 5:43-44

Reflect: Some people walk away from faith because of a distorted version of Christianity. A version that was based more on family tradition, life experiences, or politicized church doctrine. This passage is an example of Jesus replacing what is untrue with what is true. What are some of the teachings and practices you learned as a child that you question today?

Prayer: Where else can I go, Lord? I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.

Sunday

John 6:67-68 | 1 Corinthians 15:17

Reflect: The real question is not will the church, other Christians or your pastor let you down? The real question is, "Where else will you go" when they do? What is the significance of Jesus walking out of his grave?

Prayer: Almighty God, the church and others may let me down, but I trust that you are always with me, working for the good in my life.