Victory Connect Lesson Developing a Deeper Faith Pastor Paul Daugherty April 6, 2025

Key Passage: Mar ... Mat 11:2,3 KJV - Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, :3 KJV - And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?

Introduction: John the Baptist knew before he was born that Jesus was the Christ yet, later in life while in prison, he questioned if Jesus was the Messiah. Bad or difficult experiences can distort our view of God. The truth will set us free from the unseen "prisons" of the heart.

1. John the Baptist knew very well who Jesus was.

Jhn 1:29 KJV - The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. Mat 3:17 KJV And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

2. From the darkness of prison John asked who Jesus was. Mat 11:3 NET - "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

Three spiritual "prisons" and the keys to freedom:

1. Prison of disappointment. Key: Trust God is working for you because there are things you just do not know. Rom 8:28 NET - And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose, Deu 29:29a NLT - "The LORD our God has secrets known to no one...

2. Prison of offense at God. Key: Cast down vain negative thoughts against God. 2Co 10:5 KJV - Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

<u>3. Prison of unbelief.</u> Key: Esteem the eternal Word greater than contrary circumstances. 1Pe 1:24b,25a KJV...The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away::25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever...

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Have you ever asked "God, where are you?"
- 2. Share a time you realized you were offended at God?
- 3. How do you respond to unanswered prayer?

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