

Discussion Questions – April 2, 2023
Knowing and Known by Jesus – Matthew 11:2-15

Who was one of your best friends when you were growing up? What made that relationship special?

The Struggle to Know Jesus – 11:2-6

After all that John the Baptist had said/seen/heard about Jesus, he was still doubting. Chuck asked us, “Ever been there? Ever experienced something so distressing or shattering that you asked, “Is Jesus who he says he is – who the Bible says he is?”

- When have you gone through genuine doubt like that?
- What place does doubt have in the formation of our Christian life?

Chuck shared about the importance community has in helping us when we doubt. He spoke of the role John the Baptist’s disciples had in helping John (“I need your help – go ask Jesus”), the role of Ananias had in helping Saul, and the role his (Chuck’s) brother, an elder, and a pastor had in his life. Then he asked these questions – ponder them together:

- Can you bring your hard questions to Jesus? If so, share how you’ve processed a hard question with Jesus.
- Can you bring hard questions up in your Community Group? What kind of trust is necessary to do this? What question/s might you bring up?
- Who has played a significant role in your life when you’ve struggled?

Being Known By Jesus – 11:7-15

Jesus described John the Baptist as the greatest man who had ever lived up to that point -- greater than Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, the prophets (v. 11).

- How do you respond to the fact that the greatest man who had ever lived was disillusioned with Jesus?
- Even with John’s doubts, how did Jesus continue to view/value him? What does that say about God’s view of you when you have doubts?
- How can one feel loved and accepted by God or by others when they struggle with doubt? How are we called to respond to others when they doubt?
- What difference does it make that Jesus said, “Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he [John the Baptist]”?