

Sermon Notes 1/27/19

John 6 Doubt has the potential to wreck our faith, to totally get us to walk away from God. The issue is not the doubt, but what we are going to do with our doubt. How do we respond? Do we walk away because our questions are not answered? Is there another option? Everyone has doubts! People who walk away from their faith have the tendency to make bad life decisions, hurting not God nor the church, but themselves.

Doubt can be faith building and can lead to insight. It can lead to dependency and to good things in our relationship with God. God is not offended or made insecure by our questions. **John 6** (Jesus feeds the 5000 - Jesus walks on water – People find Jesus the next day and are ready to make him King – Jesus is at peak of his popularity – Jesus begins to teach on himself being the bread of life: unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of Christ you can't have life. **John 6:66** "From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. **You do not want to leave too, do you?"** Jesus asked the twelve. There is going to be a point in your life when it is going to be hard to follow Jesus. Can you imagine the thoughts going through the minds of the twelve disciples when the crowd is leaving and turning away? Can you imagine the doubts they are having when Jesus says they must eat his flesh and drink his blood?

When you went to college or began a new career, did you maybe think, "Christianity is irrelevant! Look at what I am going to miss out on! I have always had a few doubts or questions and now that I am out on my own, I am not sure it is what I want or if it is going to work for me." Maybe you are in a tough marriage and if you were not a Christian, it would be easy to get out of the situation you are in. You think, "If I could just detach, life would be so much easier." At some point, this question becomes relevant to you. **"You do not want to go too, do you?"** If we will

be honest we would have to answer, "I was thinking about it." Notice what happens next. Peter gets an insight that puts his doubts and our doubts in the proper perspective. **John 6:68** "Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go?" Peter recognized that to walk away from Christ is to walk TOWARD (even unintentionally) to something or someone else. When we walk away from Christ or our faith, where would we go? When we have doubts, we must not just get tangled up in our questions; we have to consider the options. **When we consider the options, it brings clarity to the questions.** Before you walk away from Jesus or your faith, ask yourself the question: what are my options? To whom shall I go? "You have the words of eternal life." Christ is the only one who has given the promise of eternal life. No one else is promising eternal life. No one and nothing else gives us this promise or guarantee. In the midst of your doubts and questions, you must consider your options. If you will get focused on that question, to whom shall I go; suddenly it brings clarity to your doubts and questions. Who else offers you eternal life for free?