



Bible Thematic Lessons

from **Godly Pearls**

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Thematic Lesson.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:
DOUBT



Read the Bible References: The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goal of Lesson:

- To encourage students to overcome doubt and grow their faith in Jesus.



Lesson Takeaway:

When you overcome doubt, you also overcome many other negative feelings. God can help you overcome doubt and build faith.



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Date:



Topic:

DOUBT



Bible References:

Matthew 14:22 – 33;
James 1:5 – 8.



Explain the meaning of doubt.

When you doubt, it means you don't believe or are not sure about something. You might even think sometimes and say, "oh, that is true, and immediately lose your confidence about the truth. Someone who doubts can be said to have a double mind. To have a double mind, you are sometimes sure and sometimes unsure about the truth.



What does the bible say about doubt?

According to several verses in the bible, we are encouraged to build up our faith, rather than doubt. Faith is the opposite of doubt. If you have doubt, it means you don't have faith.

In James 1:5 – 8 and Mark 11:22 – 25, when you pray with doubt in your heart, you will not receive what you are asking from God.

According to Matthew 21:21, doubt will hinder you from doing great things.

In Mark 6:1 – 6, Jesus was rejected in Nazareth because the people there did not believe in Him. They were asking one another, "Is this not the same Jesus we know? He grew up here. We know His brothers and sisters. How come He now works miracles?". They did not believe Him and Jesus could not do many miracles there. When you doubt, you cannot see the great works of God. Doubt hinders people from seeing or experiencing how great our God is and what He can do.





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What does the bible say about doubt? (Contd.)

When Jesus appeared to His disciples the first time, Thomas was not there. When they told Him they had seen Jesus, he did not believe that Jesus had risen from the grave. Thomas wanted to touch the hands and side of Jesus before he believed. Well, Jesus showed up again and asked Thomas to touch Him. But Jesus was not happy that Thomas doubted that He had risen from the grave (John 20:24 – 29).

Another example of doubt could be found in the story of Angel Gabriel and Zechariah. Angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah with good news that he would have a son. Zechariah was very old and could not believe what the angel told him. Because Zechariah doubted, he became dumb until he had his son, John (see Luke 1:11 – 20).

Most times, doubt goes together with fear, worry, anxiety, low self-esteem, and other negative feelings.



How can we overcome doubt today?

When we overcome doubt, and start building faith, we also overcome the other negative feelings that come with doubt such as fear, worry, anxiety, low self-esteem, etc.

Some of the things that we can do to overcome doubt are given below:

- Listen to the word of God. “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17).
- Think and believe that God is always faithful. Faithfulness is one of the attributes of God. God will never tell a lie. He will always do what He says He will do (Numbers 23:19).



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How can we overcome doubt today? (contd).

- Think of all the great things God does for you, and gives you every day – His protection, provision, love, care, peace, good health, guidance, and direction, etc. Be grateful for all the good things you enjoy from God and watch your faith soar inside of you (Lamentations 3:22 – 23).
- Pray and ask God to help you overcome doubt and grow faith. In Mark 9:14 – 27, a father brought his son who had a deaf and dumb spirit troubling him. When Jesus said to the father, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes”, the father cried out, saying, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”. We can pray like that father too and God will help us to overcome our doubt.

Finally, for us to walk with God, and please God, we need to do away with doubt. In Hebrews 11:6, the bible says that “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him”.



Memorize:

Mark 9:24 – Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”.



Questions:

- i. Mention five other people in the bible who showed doubt rather than faith. Why did they doubt?
- ii. What can you do to overcome doubt?



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Remember: When you overcome doubt, you also overcome many other negative feelings. God can help you overcome doubt and build faith.



Let us pray: Dear God, I know that sometimes I doubt your word, your promises and even doubt that you love me. Please help me to build my faith and overcome doubt. Help my unbelief! I ask these in Jesus' name. Amen.



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