

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Deconstruction: A Doubter's Journey

Week 1: Why Faith Falls Apart

John 18-19

March 5, 2023

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Deconstruction is a journey of unpacking, rethinking, and examining our belief system. Wise, purposeful deconstruction can be healthy, but deconstruction without reconstruction can lead us down a dark path. In this series, we're learning how to wrestle with our questions and doubts in a way that yields growth instead of destruction.

Kicking It Off:

If you had an unlimited budget, which room in your home would you love to remodel this year? And why?

Discussion:

1. When you hear the term "deconstruction," what comes to mind for you? What are you hoping to gain from this sermon series about having spiritual doubts?
2. How did Jeff explain the differences between having a faith renovation, a restoration, or a complete demolition? In your opinion, what are some possible good things that might come from wrestling with big questions of faith?
3. Re-read Peter's situation in John 13:37-38. What are some ways in our current generation that we can potentially deny Christ as Lord?

"Peter asked, 'Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.' Then Jesus answered, 'Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!'"

4. Jeff outlined several causes for someone's faith to deconstruct. From this list, which one resonates with you the most? If you're comfortable, tell your group a little bit about your experience with it.

Church Hurt

Christian Hypocrisy

Countercultural Ways

Personal Failure

Life Disappointment

5. In light of Romans 14:13, what steps do you need to make this week so that you can live in peace with other believers around you?

"So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall."

Wrapping Up:

Hopefully, your group members feel that your group creates a "safe space" for everyone to express concerns and doubts, while coming together to look for answers. Pray you will lovingly engage in questions from seekers and doubters, while graciously handling healthy skepticism.