

September 23, 2018
Series: Change
You Don't Have to be Unsettled
Ted Cunningham

1. I Peter 3:15 says we should “revere Christ as Lord” and “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” and to do it with “gentleness and respect.”

*How do you revere Christ as Lord?

*What would you say your reason is for "the hope that you have"?

*How do you react when fellow Christians do not react to others when disagreeing with gentleness and respect? Would you unfollow someone on Facebook?

*When you have approached someone with gentleness and respect, what has been the result?

2. What in your life are you certain about? Why do you think some Christians have problem with “certainty” about some aspects of Christianity that others are certain about? Are there some things that Christians can be uncertain about? Christians have different opinions on many issues, can unity come in love for and devotion to Jesus?

3. Mark 9:14-27 tells about the healing of a boy with an evil spirit. The boy's father said to Jesus, “If you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” Jesus said to the father, “If you can?” He added, “Everything is possible for him who believes.” The father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief. Then Jesus healed the boy.

*This saying has confused some who think a loved one could be saved or some other thing might happen if they only believed. How else can we understand this?

*Are there any implications for doubters in the father's statement: “I do believe; help my overcome my unbelief.”

*Can faith and doubt be present in the same heart? Can you be a Christian and have questions that may never be answered?

4. What storms have you endured? What kept you from being swept away? How has the church helped you be strong in times of storm?

5. Jeremiah 17:7-8 says:

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.
He is like a tree planted by the water, that sends out its roots by the stream,
And does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green,
And is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

*How is a tree planted by water a good image for the man who trusts in the Lord?

*When you think about your relationship with God, do you feel like a tree by the water?

*In what way are you bearing fruit because of your trust in the Lord?

6. What is your favorite promise Jesus has made? What is your favorite hymn?