

GG Questions | Don't Be Offended Pt. 1

Luke 7.18-23

Read Luke 7:18-23

Select among the following questions those most helpful to you:

1. Have you ever been absolutely certain about what God was going to do—only to find that He worked in a way you didn't expect? How did that affect your faith in that moment?
2. What circumstances led John the Baptist to send his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" (Luke 7:19)? How might John's imprisonment and expectations about the Messiah have contributed to his question?
3. What Old Testament passages does Jesus allude to in v. 22 when he describes the blind seeing, the lame walking, the deaf hearing, and the poor receiving good news? Why do you think Jesus answered John's question by pointing to fulfilled Scripture instead of simply saying "Yes"?
4. What does Jesus' response in v. 22 teach us about the relationship between miracles and the message of the gospel? Why is the final statement—"the poor have good news preached to them"—so significant?
5. The word translated "offended" in Luke 7:23 comes from the Greek word meaning "to stumble" or "to fall." What are some ways people today stumble over Jesus—either because of what He teaches or because of what they expected Him to do? What teachings of Jesus are most commonly rejected or resisted in our culture today? Why do you think people find them offensive?

6. John the Baptist had strong faith but still struggled with doubt. What does this passage teach us about how believers should handle seasons of confusion or discouragement in their faith?
7. Jesus responded to John's doubt with patience and evidence from Scripture. What does this show us about Christ's character and the way He deals with sincere but struggling believers?
8. Have there been times when something in Scripture or in God's providence confused or troubled you? How did seeking answers in God's Word help bring clarity or strengthen your faith?
9. Jesus says in v. 23, "Blessed is the one who is not offended by me." Thinking back to Chapter 6, what are the blessings that belong to those who are not offended by Christ? How can this help during moments of hardship in the Christian life?
10. When someone is offended by the truth of the gospel, how can we discern whether their offense comes from ignorance, rejection, or disregard for God's Word? How might that affect how we respond to them?
11. In this passage, Jesus gently points ignorant doubters back to Scripture and supernatural evidence. How can we imitate that approach when talking with unbelievers or skeptics about Christ?