

# Oceanside Connect Group Outline

## Week of September 13<sup>th</sup> 2015



### Key Scripture

John 1:43-51 (ESV)

#### Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, **“Follow me.”** <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, **“Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!”** <sup>48</sup> Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, **“Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.”** <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered him, **“Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.”** <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, **“Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”**

## Discussion Questions From This Week’s Sermon

### 1; Is doubt the opposite of faith?

Doubt has been portrayed often as the opposite of faith! However clearly unbelief is the opposite of faith. Have you been in situations where you have doubted but feared speaking about your doubts in Christian circle because of the fear of being seen to have lack of faith? Share some of those incidents with the group.

### 2; What false perceptions do people have about Christianity?

Personal perceptions, public perceptions and circumstantial perceptions play a huge part in planting doubt in our mind. Jesus often encountered people who had preconceived personal, public and circumstantial convictions about Him. Take some time to discuss some of the false perceptions that unbelievers may have about Christians, the "Church" and God? Also what part we play as believers in fueling these notions?

### 3; How does doubt manifest in the life of a believer?

Doubt in the life of a believer manifests in the areas of the purpose of Christ for our lives, the position we hold in Christ and the power of Christ at work within us. Look up some scriptures that reinforce what God says about these three topics and share them with the group.

### 4; Is faith a destination or an ongoing journey?

Think of the potential as a church if we all embrace faith as a journey not as a destination and move from unbelief. Name some personal practical ways in which you feel as believers we can embrace this move, perhaps it's praying for someone who is sick to get healed when before you never felt comfortable to do that or perhaps laying aside "comfort" and starting to serve in the church in some capacity rather than just attending meetings.

## Take Home

- 1: Recognise that doubt often originates out of preconceived ideas fueled by public perceptions, personal perceptions or circumstantial perceptions.
- 2: Embrace faith as a journey NOT as a destination!
- 3: Doubt is not resolved by knowing the answer, it is resolved by seeing JESUS! He is the destination!
- 4: How you deal with your doubts impacts your inheritance and how we will live today!