



## Trust and Don't Doubt- Work Your Faith!

### Emmanuel Covenant Church

by Pastor Jocelyn C. Thornton

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There was a song the choir used to sing in the church where I grew up when I was a little girl, and the song went something like this-- "You can't make me doubt Him, I know too much about Him, You can't make me doubt Him in my heart!"

As I reflect upon the words and meaning of this song today, I realize that as Christian's on a journey with God, everyday we have many opportunities to literally throw away our faith, and instead of faith, take on the posture of doubt!



Think about it-- People try to make you doubt God! Circumstances try to make you doubt God! Frustrations and disappointments try to make you doubt God!

Imagine-- doubting God-- what an earth shaking, mind blowing, riveting thought! How can we doubt the God whose words created the universe? How can we doubt the God who set the stars in the sky? How can we doubt the God who called nothingness into existence? How can we doubt the God who created humanity in God's image? How can we doubt the God who created the fish of the sea and the birds of the air? How can we doubt the God that separated the light from the darkness? How can we doubt the God who loved us so much that before we knew ourselves, God called us one of God's own? If we love God, and we say we belong to God-- How can we doubt God?

Well friends, the truth of the matter is, it seems that doubt just might be a part of the Christian journey-- doubt may even be the ultimate test of our faith! God gives us a Word, and soon after receiving that Word, we somehow allow doubt to creep in!

But in the midst of those times of doubt; in the midst of those times on our journey when our faith is being tested, you and I must remember and rest in the fact that the moment God spoke the Word - the Word changed everything!

Further, no matter what is going in our lives, the Word that God has spoken and given to us is meant to produce something! Isaiah 55:11 records these words concerning the Word of God: "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

The Word that you received from the Lord is meant to give you life, and it is meant to give you faith-- faith to step out; faith to move; and faith to trust God! You and I should not say, "I received a Word from the God, I have faith that God will do what God told me", and then, sit still!

Well, you could sit still, but then, where is your faith? The New Testament book of James has our answer: "Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble! But do you want to know, O

foolish man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:18-20)

Has God given you a Word for your life that you are wrestling with? Has God given you a vision for what your future holds? Well my friend, stop wrestling! If you belong to God, then you know God's voice!

Remember, Jesus said, "My sheep know my voice and the voice of a stranger they will not follow." (John 10:4-5) So stop looking for evidence; just trust God, and do what God said! Don't worry about what it looks like; don't fret about what you don't have; don't concern yourself with who is not with you, who does not like you, or who does not believe you- just start working! Make steps to move out on God's Word, work your faith, and watch your faith become complete!

"You can't make me doubt Him, I know too much about Him, You can't make me doubt Him in my heart!"

Keep Pressing! Blessings and Peace.

*Pastor Jocelyn C. Thornton is the Senior Pastor of Emmanuel Covenant Church. Emmanuel Covenant Church meets at the Marcus Theatre, 16350 S. LaGrange Road, Orland Park at 9 a.m. every Sunday.*