

# THE KING WE NEED

## Discussion Guide: Curiosity & Unbelief

**Passage:** Luke 7:18-35

**Summary:** As Jesus' fame spreads, people respond in a few key ways. John the Baptist wrestles in faith, asking questions with readiness to believe. Yet others doubt God from the very beginning, revealing a hardness of heart and refusal to believe. What's the difference between doubt and unbelief? How do we discern between them in our hearts?

### Discussion Questions:

1. Why did John struggle to fully understand Jesus' identity? He had already baptized Him. Why was he still wondering if Jesus actually was "the One who was to come"?
2. We often wrestle with doubt about Jesus when things don't go the way we anticipated. Are there times in your life you've experienced doubt like this?
3. Sometimes we wrestle with doubt when Jesus says things we don't like or that go against the grain of the world we've been formed in. What's the difference between struggling with curious doubt and stubborn unbelief when it comes to these things? How do we know which is happening in us?
4. Ken mentioned a few ways to handle our doubt. 1) Don't ignore it, 2) Bring it to a loving community, 3) Come back to what you have "seen and heard" about Jesus, 4) Look behind your doubt to what beliefs are informing it, and 5) Bring your doubt to Jesus. Which of those are hardest for you and why do you think that is?
5. When have you wrestled with doubt about Jesus in your life? (It may even be now!) What was happening and how did you walk through that doubt? When you face future doubts, what do you want to do differently?