



## Seeing And Believing | November 30, 2016

### Discussion Guide

#### The Scoop

It's safe to say that some of us have doubts, we don't have all the answers, and yet, some of us don't need all the answers. Are you willing to consider something in which you cannot have it all figured out?

#### Key Verse

John 20:25,29 (NLT)

*But [Thomas] replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."*

*Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."*

#### Discussion

Typically as a culture we don't do balance or moderation well. We are always striving for 100%, looking to remove uncertainty, and with so much information at our fingertips, we believe we should always be able to find an answer to any and all questions.

1. What are some topics for which you have done extensive research?
2. What are some examples of things you have no answer or explanation for? Why?

For whatever reason we have this "all or nothing" mentality when it comes to faith, as well. Many of us either bury our heads in the sand when it comes to things we can't answer regarding faith or we can't reconcile the facts, feelings, and doubts. Is there an in between?

3. What are some topics, facts, feelings about God, the Bible, or Jesus that you are unclear to you?
4. Are there rules or regulations with faith that don't make sense to you?

Bob Goff says, "It's not about knowing it all. It's about living some of it." This is difficult in our culture of "all or nothing." We want check lists for clarity and measurement. We believe on an intellectual level that we should be able to study, research, and discuss enough that we have all the answers. Based on what Bob says, it's more about living it out as best we can, than it is about knowing everything.

5. Can you get comfortable with not knowing everything? Can you believe in something that may not make complete sense to you?
6. What do you think it looks like to "live some of it"?

#### What's Next?

Bob also shares a story about how people remove their shoes at his house. Not because there is a list of rules stating such, but because when you walk in there is a pile of shoes. What if it's more about the pile of shoes than it is about the rule to remove them?

This week as you live your regular life, consider what things you don't fully understand and wonder whether they matter enough to keep you from living some of it out. Additionally, work to get rid of the list of rules and live in such a way that people want to take their shoes off and stay a while.