

Honest To God?

HONEST TO GOD

The 1975 – *If I Believe You*

I've got a God-shaped hole, that's infected; And I'm petrified of being alone; It's pathetic, I know And I toss and I turn in my bed; It's just like I lost my head (lost my head)

And if I believe you, would that make it stop? If I told you I need you, is that what you want?

And I'm broken and bleeding, and begging for help. And I'm asking you Jesus, show yourself.

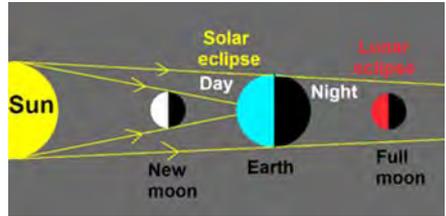
- Until you are fully honest to God, you will not experience God fully.
- Being honest to God allows you to have a closer relationship with God.

DOUBT: When what I feel obstructs what I know to be true.

- Is it possible to know God, even if I spend a large portion of my conscious existence pondering whether He even cares?

Where is my faith? Even deep down, right in, there is nothing but emptiness & darkness. My God – how painful is this unknown pain. It pains without ceasing. I have no faith. I dare not utter the words and thoughts that crowd in my heart and make me suffer untold agony. So many unanswered questions live within me – I am afraid to uncover them.

Mother Teresa ~ *Come Be My Light*



- Doubt can feel like a barrier to a relationship with God.

LEARNING FROM JOB

- **Honest to God about self:** Job 6:28; 7: 11,19; 30:16-17: *Look at me, for I will not lie to your face... Therefore I will not restrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul... How long will you not look away from me, nor leave me alone till I swallow my spit? And now my soul is poured out within me; days of affliction have taken hold of me. The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.*
- **Honest to God about Him:** Job 19:25-26; 40:3-5: *For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God... Then Job answered the Lord and said: Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but I will proceed no further.*
- **Honest to God about self and about God flows out of worship:** Job 1:20-22: *Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. And he said, Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.*

WORSHIP AND PRAISE “THROWS SHADE” ON DOUBT!

- Your doubt doesn't have to be a barrier to a relationship with God. It can be a strength instead of a weakness. Being honest with God about your doubt and turning to him in worship and praise bridges gaps in the relationship. Being honest about yourself and your doubt tells God what is true about you. Being honest in worship and praise tells God what is true about him.
- Worship and praise does not remove our doubt. Worship and praise moves our doubt.

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