

UNBELIEF

I've heard a lot of people speak about "how to live a strong Christian life" that would be pleasing in the sight of God. But as growing up and even now at times I've heard my father always talk about this one topic which would displease God and that was Unbelief, and honestly, I never really gave it any thought or even discussed it. But recently the word unbelief caught my attention and has been making the rounds in my head! So I started asking myself, what is unbelief? Unbelief is not believing! Simple, right? But what if that word comes in-between your relationship with God? is it still very simple? or sounds like a big problem? Have we ever asked ourselves the question if we have unbelief? We confidently pray, read the bible and do everything to please God, but what about believing in him? You may say yes of course I believe in Jesus!

But I believe that unbelief is very subtle. You may fail to even recognize that sometimes you're walking in it. Sometimes when we are trusting God with a prayer request since a very long time, and nothing seems to be happening, we tend to get tired of waiting and that's when unbelief starts to creep in!

How does unbelief take root in us?

MIND: Everything starts here, it is the battlefield. In the year 2012 I started looking out for jobs, I knew it would take some time but eventually I would find one and start earning. But unexpectedly it turned out to be a very big challenge! Months passed by and I was still unemployed, slowly but surely thoughts of unbelief crept in. I started thinking that God did not care for me, or I am not that special to him, maybe he does not love me, or if he even listens to me?? That's how we open the door to unbelief. Then I started having a bad attitude about praying or reading the bible or even going to church. I thought anyways God isn't bothered about me then why should I? just because it was taking some time I started questioning my trust and belief in God. How did that happen?? Because I allowed the thought to flow in through my mind, I opened the door.

One morning I woke up with a terrible tummy ache, and I tried all possible home remedies to get rid of it, but nothing seemed to be working. I knew one resort that would work for sure, that was going to the hospital. I knew the doctors could fix this ache. So, my husband and me went into the emergency and within half an hour my tummy ache was fixed! I came out of the hospital pain free. I believed the doctors could give me the right diagnosis and accurate medication and I would be fine, I believed in them! That's belief! Now what is unbelief in God???

Unbelief is when you start doubting in God's ability to take care of your current situation. And when you dwell immensely on unbelief, you sometimes start doubting the very existence of God! See how subtle unbelief is! I consider unbelief as the root of all sin. It will fill you with fear, anxiety and make you panic at times. It causes you to become impatient and lose all your hope

and ultimately you may walk far away from God. That's how dangerous it is! it can just rob you of your faith in Christ!

There have been days in my life where I came close to giving up on God and believing that he could not help me. But that is the biggest lie the enemy can plant in your mind!

Don't forget what the bible talks about the devil, he comes to steal, kill and destroy! The moment he opens his mouth he's lying and he's stealing your peace, killing your faith and destroying your life! so any time your mind starts having thoughts of unbelief, just rebuke it and resist the devil and he will flee from you! (James 4:7)

God is a prayer answering God! He said call unto me and I will answer you (Jeremiah 33: 3) Sometimes there are delays but what God has promised will surely come to pass because our God is not a man to lie. (Numbers 23:19)

God said that he will be with us till the end of time. (Matthew 28: 20) hold on to that truth and practice walking by faith and not by sight!

God is always with us even if at times we feel he isn't there, that does not change the fact that he is actually right there beside you holding your hand!

We need to be alert at all times watching out for signs of unbelief and asking our heavenly Father to help us stand strong and hold on to him!

Let's crush unbelief with BELIEF! By *Elizabeth Renyl*