

**THE JOURNEY**  
THE PURSUIT OF CHRISTLIKENESS

PART 4

Believe: Christianity Made Simple

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DISCIPLESHIP PRIMER

**Four Steps to Christlikeness**

**BELIEVE    BECOME**  
**BELONG    BUILD**

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**WHAT AMAZES JESUS**

*"He was amazed at the Centurion's faith:  
'I've not seen such belief even in Israel.'"*

**LUKE 7:9**

*"He was amazed at their unbelief."*

**MARK 6:6**

Nothing stirs Jesus more than  
belief—or the lack of it.

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**BELIEF / UNBELIEF**

**Unbelief**

Not denial of Christ's Lordship;  
It is to acknowledge him as Lord yet  
live as if he doesn't matter.

**Belief**

To live as if Jesus is all that matters.

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The **first step** toward  
Christlikeness must begin  
with belief.

*"Now is the time. The kingdom of God has  
come near. Repent and believe the gospel!"*

**MARK 1:14-15**

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**BELIEF**

Belief is not intellectual  
assent to a set of facts  
about Jesus.

*"You believe that there is one  
God. Good for you! Even the  
demons believe this, and they  
tremble in terror."*

**JAMES 2:19 (NLT)**



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**BELIEF**

Belief is not behavior  
based on a set of  
principles.

*"I don't want your sacrifices—  
I want your love; I don't want  
your offerings—I want you to  
know me."*

**HOSEA 6:6 (LB)**



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God doesn't just want our head and  
our hands, **he wants our hearts.**

*"Believe in your heart that God raised  
Jesus...you will be saved. For with  
the heart one believes."*

**ROMANS 10:9-10**

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## HEART



**Heart**, used 823 times in scripture, refers to the seat of our emotions, mind and will.



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## HEART

*"Love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment."*

**MATTHEW 22:37-38**

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## BELIEF

A fully devoted heart that overflows with:

- ▶ **RADICAL LOVE**
- ▶ **RUTHLESS TRUST**
- ▶ **RISKY FAITH**

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## MATTHEW 17:17-20

*"You unbelieving and perverse generation, how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." Jesus rebuked the demon, it came out and the boy was instantly healed. In private the disciples asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."*

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Jesus' rebuke wasn't with the quantity of their faith, but with the **quality of their faith.**

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**REASONS FOR REBUKE**

Their inability to deliver the boy exposed their **prayerlessness.**

*"This kind comes out only by prayer."*

**MARK 9:29**

Prayerlessness reveals believing without living as if Jesus is all that matters.

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**REASONS FOR REBUKE**

Their inability to deliver the boy exposed dependence on **their own power.**

*"As you go ... heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons."*

**MATTHEW 10:6-8**

Relying on our own strength reveals believing without living as if Jesus is all that matters.

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More than anything, Jesus wants me to believe in him — to live as if **he is all that matters!**

*"Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may **believe** that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by **believing** you may have life in his name."*

**JOHN 20:30-31**

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*"John the Baptist came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through Jesus all might **believe**."*

**JOHN 1:7**

*"All who receive him, to those who **believe** in his name, he gives the right to become the children of God."*

**JOHN 1:12**

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**JOHN 3:14-18**

*"The Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who **believes** may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever **believes** in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save the world through him. Whoever **believes** in him is not condemned, but whoever does not **believe** stands condemned already because they have not **believed** in the name of God's only Son."*

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**JOHN 2:19,22**

*"Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." ... (the temple he had spoken of was his body.) After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they **believed** the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken."*

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**DO I BELIEVE?**

Belief is placing total, radical trust in Jesus Christ so that he is all that really matters!

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Jesus invites us to believe ...  
and even then, he will help!

*"I believe, but help my unbelief."*

**MARK 9:24**

*"Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood,  
you won't have my life in you."*

**JOHN 6:53**



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