**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. August 20, 2023**

**How To Deal With Unmet Expectations From God**

Matthew 11:1-19

**Key Truth**: God uses trials in our lives to test our faith and to direct our hearts to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

**John Has A Question For Jesus:**

1. John the Baptist circumstances allowed him to question

 his faith and his ministry. Matthew 3:1-3, John 1:29-34

2. John’s isolation from the faith community was also

 allowing for disillusionment to set in.

3. Jesus responds with compassion rather than

 condemnation to John’s question.

4. Jesus rebukes the crowd for not believing John’s

 message about Him.

**What To Do With Your Doubts:**

1. Remember that our situation doesn’t define who Jesus is

 and what He is doing.

2. Wait patiently and faithfully on Jesus.

3. Remember, Jesus is working even when we can’t see it.

4. Don’t run away from Jesus with your doubt, run toward

 Jesus with your questions.

5. Our expectations of Jesus must be guided by the reality

 of God’s Word. Isaiah 55:8-9

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Whatever you are going through, trust that Jesus Christ loves you and is in control of your circumstances. Starve your doubts by feeding your faith daily abiding in the Word of God and living in Christian community.

**Food For Thought:**

Have you or anyone close to you ever gone through a season of doubt?

What do you think were the motivating factors behind that season?

How did you respond to that season? What did you learn from it?

Read Mark 9:14-27: How did Jesus respond to this struggling father?

What do we learn about the compassionate heart of God toward doubters through Jesus’ response?

How does it help you to know that Jesus both welcomes you in your struggles and won’t let you remain in them if you bring them to Him?