

I WANT TO BELIEVE, BUT ...

Checkin' in on ya!
How are you doing?

Praying for you. 🙏

Back at work after
the funeral.

Don't bother.

On-Demand God

Series: I Want to Believe, but...

Scripture: Romans 8:35-37

Many people want _____ God.

- An _____ God does not _____.

God doesn't _____ to _____ us. We exist to _____ Him.

3 Qualities of the Heart of God:

1. God's _____ is always _____.

- Romans 8:35-37

2. His _____ are always _____ than ours.

- Isaiah 55:8-9

3. God's _____ is always _____.

- Psalm 23
- Often it's not until God is _____ that you _____, that you'll _____ realize God is all you _____.

Start talking.

- Growing up, what's one thing you had to "wait for" that today's generation doesn't? (TV shows, payphones, film photos, etc.)

Start thinking.

- Read Romans 8:35–39. What encouragement does Paul give us when life doesn't go the way we expect?
- Isaiah 55:8–9 reminds us that God's ways are higher than our ways. Why is this both frustrating and comforting?
- Psalm 23:4 says, "*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me.*" How have you personally experienced God's presence in a "valley" season?

Start sharing.

- When have you been tempted to treat God like an "on-demand God"—expecting Him to act the way you wanted and when you wanted?
- How does knowing God's heart is always loving change the way you see unanswered prayers?
- Where in your life right now do you need to lean into God's presence as "enough"?
- What do you think it would look like if instead of only asking God to change your circumstances, ask Him to change your heart and help you trust His higher ways.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, I thank You that Your heart is always loving, Your ways are higher than ours, and Your presence is always enough. Forgive me when I treat You like an on-demand God. Help me trust You even when I don't understand, and rest in the promise that nothing can separate me from Your love in Christ Jesus. Amen."

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

- **Shift Your Perspective** – This week, catch yourself if you start treating God like an "on-demand" genie. Instead, remind yourself: God doesn't exist to serve me, I exist to serve Him.
- **Trust the Higher Way** – Identify one situation in your life you don't understand right now. Instead of demanding answers, pray Isaiah 55:8–9 over it and choose to trust that God's ways are higher.
- **Practice God's Presence** – Each day this week, pause for five minutes to acknowledge God's presence with you, even in difficulty, and thank Him that His presence is enough.
- This week, Pray for each other to experience God's love, wisdom, and presence in real and tangible ways.