IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FATAL TO YOUR FAITH

8:30 AM Service Sunday, May 9, 2021

Part 5: True Disciples John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Welcome & Call to Worship

He Is Exalted Songs of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy

Build My Life

**DOUBT: Part 5** 

John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Be Thou My Vision

\*Prayer of Confession & Assurance

**Songs of Response** 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

**Moment of Prayer** 

**Songs of Preparation** 

Message

Song of Response

**Opportunity to Give & Benediction** 

Rachel Poysky

Twila Paris

TRADITIONAL Dave Steane

Matt Maher

Rachel Poysky

House Fires

Alf Halvorson

TRADITIONAL

Alf Halvorson



**Sunday Worship Playlist** Click here to listen.

**Give Online** give.mdpc.org

#### Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of MDPC's local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit partners.mdpc.org to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

# DOUBT

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FATAL TO YOUR FAITH

**9:45 AM Service** Sunday, May 9, 2021

Part 5: True Disciples
John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Worship Leader

Song of Praise

On Earth as in Heaven

Red Rocks Worship

Sarah Stone

\*Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Alf Halvorson

Baptisms

Alf Hal

Theodore Zadek Weber, son of Matthew and Nancy Weber

Eloise Grey Dickerson, daughter of Nicholas and Rachel Dickerson

**Songs of Preparation** 

What a Beautiful Name

Hillsong Worship

Cornerstone

Millie Louise Gassett, daughter of Mauro and Kathryn Gassett

Message

DOUBT: Part 5
John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Alf Halvorson

**Song of Response** 

Build My Life

House Fires

Moment of Prayer

Beth Case

**Opportunity to Give & Benediction** 

Alf Halvorson



Sunday Worship Playlist
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# DOUBT

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE FATAL TO YOUR FAITH

**11:15 AM Service** Sunday, May 9, 2021

Part 5: True Disciples
John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

Prelude Contrapunctus 9 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome & Call to Worship

Beth Case

\*Hymn of Praise All Creatures of Our God and King #455; Vs. 1, 6 | Lasst uns Erfruen

\*Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Dan Aikins

\*Affirmation of Faith from Heidelberg Catechism

Baptism Alf Halvorson

Grace Catherine Billingsley, daughter of David and Caroline Billingsley

Anthem The Church of God Is One Mary McDonald (b.1956)

Pastoral Prayer Beth Case

Anthem of Preparation We Believe Dan Forrest (b.1978)

Message DOUBT: Part 5 Alf Halvorson John 8:31-38 (NRSV)

**Hymn of Response** O Jesus, I Have Promised #388; Vs. 1, 3 | Angel's Story

Opportunity to Give & Benediction Alf Halvorson

**Postlude** My Spirit Be Joyful J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Musicians in this service: Charles Hausmann, conductor; Danny Wilson, Andrew Wilson, trumpets; James Wilson, French horn; Rick White, trombone; Dave Kirk, tuba; Julio Sanchez, timpani/percussion; Kathryn White, pianist/organist

#### **MDPC** Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC**'s local and global mission partners. Visit <u>partners.mdpc.org</u> to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

Give Online give.mdpc.org

Sunday, May 9, 2021

### MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

To see more events at MDPC, visit events.mdpc.org.

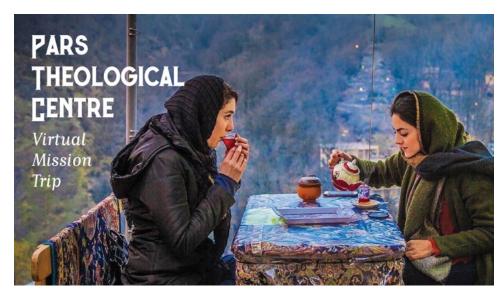
WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE as of May 2, 2021

2021 Annual Budget \$ 11,300,000 Income to Date \$ 3,132,845 Needed to Meet Budget \$ 8,167,155



#### Wednesday, May 12 • 4:30-6:00 PM

Texas is number one in the U.S. in food insecurity for children. You can help make sure there is one less hungry tummy! Come make sandwiches at **MDPC** for Kids' Meals. Learn more and sign up at **kidsmeals.mdpc.org**.



#### Saturday, May 22 • 10:00-11:30 AM

Did you know that Iran is hosting the fastest growing church in the world? Come learn about the ways God is at work among the Iranian people on a virtual mission trip! Learn more and sign up at <u>virtualtrip.mdpc.org</u>.



### Monday-Friday, July 12-16 • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

This week-long event is for elementary kids, but we need lots of adult and teen volunteers to make it a success! No teaching is required, and we have roles for every person's unique gifts. Visit <u>summercel.mdpc.org</u> to find out more.



**7th & 8th Grade: San Antonio, Texas** May 30-June 5 • Blueprint Ministries

**High School: John Brown University** (June 14-19) and/or **WayForward in Colorado** (June 26-July 2)

WayForward in Colorado (June 26-6th Grade: Houston, Texas

June 25-26 • A weekend of serving our hometown



CONNECTION is our Sunday program for Middle and High School students where we come together for fellowship, teaching, and worship. 11:15 AM in the Youth Loft; more info at connection.mdpc.org.



#### Sunday, May 23 • 9:45 COMBINED, 11:15 AM (Spanish)

Plan to be here for an OUTDOOR worship experience! The 8:30 and 9:45 services will be combined into one service at 9:45 AM. Visit **outdoor.mdpc.org** to learn more.



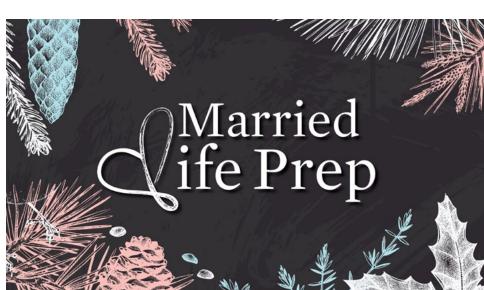
#### Sunday, May 16 • 10:00 AM-2:15 PM

As we follow Christ's call to love our neighbors, blood donations continue to be highly important! To help with COVID protocols, register for a time slot at **blooddrive.mdpc.org**.



#### Friday, May 14 • 8:00-9:00 PM

Join Kellie & Brett Hurst for a virtual date night. Bring your dinner, glass of wine, or dessert to your computer screen and enjoy some good conversation. \$10 donation per couple. Visit <u>datenight.mdpc.org</u> to sign up now!



Sundays, July 11-August 1, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

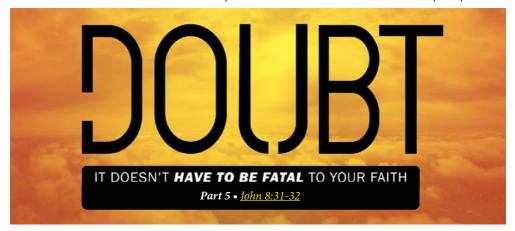
Research shows marriage prep programs can be particularly effective at preventing divorce - plus, MLP's approved by *Twogether in Texas*, so graduates can have their Texas marriage license fee waived! Go to <u>mlp.mdpc.org</u> to learn more.



Ladies, connect with God and connect with others this summer! With day and evening, weekday and weekend events from May to August, there's something for everyone. Learn more and sign up at stc.mdpc.org.



Sunday childcare currently is available for children five and under. Visit **children.mdpc.org** to see our Sunday morning health and safety protocols. For The Galaxy elementary Sunday school, just text Galaxy F2F to the number 94000 so we know you are coming!



This is the fifth and final in our spring sermon series on *Faith and Doubt*. We all want to know God's Will or Truth—with a capital T. And we sense somehow that things are "not the way they were supposed to be;" we are not "all we were supposed to be;" we are enslaved to sin, unproductive habits, and sometimes others (and even our own) unreasonable expectations. How can we be free for God and others?

- 1. Read John 8:31-32. Jesus is talking to people who believed but now are wavering. He begins with an *invitation*. What is His invitation? What is His criteria for being a true disciple? In my sermon I talked about what it means to *continue* or *remain* or *dwell*. How was that helpful? What might you do to "make your house" in Jesus' Words?
- 2. If these short verses begin with an invitation, they end with a two-fold *promise*. What are the promises? Have you been seeking those promises? What do they mean to you?
- 3. It is not a huge price to *dwell in the home* of His Word, though it requires discipline and cultivation of the habit, often and with others—but there are breathtaking benefits. How might you dwell in the home of His Word this summer and beyond?
- 4. As we dwell in His Word, we will have questions. Below is a list of helpful books I have read and recommended to those who have doubts or questions. Which book or books have you read that were helpful to you when you had questions? Is there a book below you might add to your summer reading list?
- 5. Jude verse 27 says, "Be merciful to those who doubt." How can you be gentle with yourself and others as you seek God's Word and answers to your biggest questions? Remember, much doubt is not the opposite of faith, but an element of it. May your doubts push you to God's Word and resources that can strengthen your faith and walk.

**Note:** Here are some excellent guides to help you answer many of your questions about God, the Christian faith, and misunderstandings or attacks from skeptics:

Tim Keller, The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism and Making Sense of God: Finding God in the Modern World

C. S Lewis, Mere Christianity, The Abolition of Man, and The Screwtape Letters

Alister McGrath, Intellectuals Don't Need God & Other Modern Myths, Understanding the Trinity, The Mystery of the Cross, The Dawkins Delusion, Science & Religion, and Doubting: Growing through the Uncertainties of Faith

Rebecca McLaughlin, Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion, 10 Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) about Christianity, and The Secular Creed: Engaging Five Contemporary Claims