

Dear God... Sincerely, Me

Discussion Questions

1. Share a time when you felt the pressure of getting something right, pulling off something great, or just holding things together so they don't fall apart.
2. We defined Functional Atheism as "believing in God, but acting like holding it all together is entirely up to you." In what specific areas of your life (e.g., parenting, career, a difficult relationship, finances) do you find your "line" shifting too far to the left—where you act like success depends entirely on your own effort? How are you feeling or behaving that reveals this reality to you?
3. Re-read 2 Chronicles 20:1–12. When King Jehoshaphat faced a massive threat, his first instinct wasn't to gather his military advisors, but to gather the people to pray and remind themselves of who God is. When it comes to actively holding still and looking to God before jumping into fix-it mode, what is challenging for you?
4. How do you distinguish between "what is mine to do" and "what is God's to do" in your current circumstances?
5. We talked about how yielding requires spiritual stamina. How might (or how has) raising your awareness of what God can do impact your stamina?
6. Yielding to God might require us to change our action plan. What action plan are you currently executing (or developing) that might be stemming from functional atheism tendencies? What change could you make in order to refrain from doing more than what God is asking from you?
7. One encouragement from Jehoshaphat's story was the victory he experienced without having to fight. Where have you seen God work something out better/bigger than you could have? What is your hope for what God might do in your current circumstance?
8. As we close this series on prayer: Praise, Request, Admit and Yield, spend some time together as a group, praying these things with and for one another.