

For Further Study April 16-22



What do you have to see for you to believe that something is true?

Read John 20:1-29

Discuss the different characters of the story. Based on the gospel account – what do they believe about Jesus upon finding the empty tomb?

Mary

Peter

John (the other disciple)

Thomas

You - What would you have thought/believed on that Easter morning?

How did the “belief” of each person change based upon the appearances of Jesus? Or the testimony of others?

What has kept you from believing? (doubts, fears, distractions, change)

How have you shared the gospel message with others – in big and small ways? What kind of responses did you receive?

Is there a time when we like Jesus say to Thomas – “Stop doubting and believe?” If so how would you share those words?

Why do you think Jesus himself calls us “blessed” (those who have not seen and yet have believed. John 20:29) ?

Read the following passages: What does each say about the news that we have to share about God’s desire for us to have faith/belief?

1. *John 3:16-17*
2. *Romans 5:8*
3. *Romans 10:9-10*
4. *Hebrews 11:1-2*

Close with the following prayer as a way to again give your life to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Lord Jesus, for too long I've kept you out of my life. I know that I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. No longer will I close the door when I hear you knocking. By faith I gratefully receive your gift of salvation. I am ready to trust you as my Lord and Savior.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for coming to earth. I believe you are the Son of God who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead conquering the power of death. Thank you for bearing my sins and giving me the gift of eternal life. I believe your words are true.

Come into my heart, Lord Jesus, and be my Lord and Savior. Amen.