



Bible study for the week starting April 12, 2026

SHARE

Think of a time when you had something really important that you *really* believed. What made it easy or difficult to speak up?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read [John 20:21-31](#). Thomas moved from “I will never believe” to “My Lord and my God!” What changed for him *personally* (not just *intellectually*)?
2. Jesus says, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed?” What do you think is harder or easier about faith these days compared to back then?
3. In the sermon, a good witness is described as simple, personal and meaningful. With which of these things do you have the hardest time?
4. Read [Hebrews 10:39-11:2, 12:1-3](#). What’s difficult about this definition of faith? What tends to distract you from this in your everyday life?
5. Read [Job 19:23-37](#). In the midst of intense suffering, Job makes a bold declaration of faith. What similarities do you see between Job’s faith and Thomas’ confession?
6. What is one simple, personal, meaningful way you can express your faith in the coming week?

PRAY

Let your prayers start with these phrases: “Jesus, You are Lord because...” and “Jesus, You are God because...” Pray for this faith and the application of this faith in your life.



A GOOD WITNESS

John 20:21-31 (Job 19:23-27; Hebrews 10:39-11:2, 12:1-3)

April 12, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

Christ who DIED for us, Christ who ROSE for us, is the same Christ who will COME AGAIN for us.

“Now faith is the assurance of things HOPED FOR, the conviction of things NOT SEEN.”

– Hebrews 11:1

“Blessed are those who have NOT SEEN and yet have BELIEVED.”

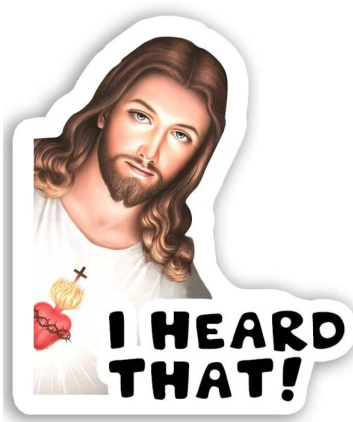
– John 20:29

Today we stand on HOLY GROUND.

Your LIFE is good, and you are only DECLARED good as a part of it, because Jesus came that you would have life ABUNDANTLY and, through His resurrection, ETERNALLY.

Thomas is about to EAT his WORDS.

Jesus does not just EXTEND peace but commands it, CREATING it out of NOTHING, giving peace in your life where there would otherwise be no peace.



Jesus turns Thomas' bold proclamation, 'I will NEVER believe' into a bold rebuke, 'STOP DISBELIEVING!' By the time John writes his gospel, Thomas had already been MARTYRED.

'My LORD and my GOD!' is perhaps the BOLDEST, CLEAREST, most SPECIFIC proclamation of Jesus in the entire Bible.

The point is FAITH: BELIEVE and CONFESS.

For next Sunday, read Luke 24:13-35.