

## THE COUNSELOR—4

### WHY DO YOU DOUBT?

*On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them... <sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said... Luke 24:1-4, Matthew 28:5-6*

*While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> [Jesus] said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see. Luke 24:36-39a*

*Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” John 20:24-25*

*A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then [Jesus] said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” John 20:26-27*

*Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” John 20:28*

*Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” John 20:29*

## TALK IT OVER

- What doubts about God do you struggle with? What causes these doubts?
- Share a time when you strengthened your faith as a result of pushing through some honest doubts.
- What will you do today to overcome your doubts and grow your faith in Jesus?