

Doubting God Part 7: Doubters Welcomel

Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. 2 Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. 3 His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. 4 The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. 5 Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. 7 And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

- Matthew 28:1-7,17 NLT

And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. 18 In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! 19 And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. 20 But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. - 1 Corinthians 15:17-20 NLT

Your faith is a journey, not a destination!

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin),[c] was not with the others when Jesus came. 25 They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side." 26 Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" 28 "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed. 29 Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me." - John 20:24-29 NLT

- A deeper faith often starts with honest doubt! (John 20:25,28)
- Jesus will graciously give you what you need to believe! (John 20:26-27)
- Deep faith gives us the resolve to follow Jesus anywhere! (John 20:29)

Happy Easter! JESUS IS ALIVE!

TALK IT OVER

- Read John 20:26-28. How might doubt be a catalyst for a deeper faith?
- Share about a time when you doubted your faith or had questions for God. How did you navigate that experience?
- Is there currently something in your life or your faith that you are doubting? What is one way that you can push through, maybe with the help of some fellow believers?

Suggested Reading Plan: Doubting God

Announcements:

- Sunday Service @ 10 AM. Nursery for children up to age 4 on weeks 2, 3 & 4; KidZone for ages 5-11.
- Girl's Ministry for grades K-6 on Wednesdays @ 5:30 PM.
- Finish Line Youth for ages 12-12th grade Wednesdays @ 7 PM.
- Men's Movie Night April 6 @ 6:30 PM @ New Life! See James Kimberly for more info!
- **Hoving Home Choir** April 21 @ 10 AM. Please prayerfully consider giving an offering of any amount for the Hoving Home!



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