



LET'S GO DEEPER

WHEN JESUS ... is in the room – April 14th 2024 – Pastor Peter

John 20:24-28

“One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. 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.’ 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. 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!’ Thomas said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’”

1. There’s A Question

In our passage, Thomas has questions and his questions are rooted in doubt.

If we track with Thomas in the Bible, we start to get a real feel for his personality.

At one point, Jesus tells His closest friends He’s leaving them – which is a massive bombshell. Then He tries to comfort them by telling them He’s going to prepare a place for them with the Father.

But Thomas doesn’t know what Jesus means, he doesn’t know the way and he’s not going to fake it that he does.

John 14:5

“No, we don’t know, Lord,’ Thomas said. ‘We have no idea where You are going, so how can we know the way?’”

So what is it that makes him give in to his uncertainty and doubt?

Jesus and the disciples daily invested - each day there was a deposit. And the value of their relationship was built in the time they spent eating, walking, sleeping, getting sick together, etc.

The disciples didn’t know Jesus was the Messiah, the son of God, because he healed someone’s eyes (sure that helped), but it was because of the time that they spent getting to know each HIS heart.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Thomas doubted the testimony of the other disciples regarding the visit of Jesus?

2. How important is it to be present when Jesus visits our lives?

3. How can pain from bad experiences blind us to see who Jesus is in our lives?

4. How does doubt impact our trust in God?



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He knows us but He still accepts us and He meets us right where we are.

Psalm 139:1-5 “O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I’m far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.”

After inviting Thomas to put his fingers into His wounds, Jesus then invites Thomas to move to a new place.

John 20:27 “Thomas, don’t give in to your doubts any longer, just believe!”

The Bible shows us our potential.

Col. 1:10 “Then the way you live will always honour and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, 3. There’s A Good Result

Thomas isn’t as hardcore a sceptic as he thinks he is.

And out of Thomas spills one of the most powerful declarations of recognition and faith in the Bible.

John 20:28 “You are my Lord, and You are my God!”

He’s not just ‘the Lord and the God.’ He’s ‘my Lord and He’s my God.’

To this point, nobody has recognized Jesus quite like this.

It powerfully affirms who Jesus is. These are titles of deity.

HOW CAN I APPLY THIS TO MY LIFE?

1. How does Thomas declaration on John 20:28 relate to you?

APPLICATION

1. One thing is certain, - Jesus. . When doubt and fear want to sink into your heart remember one thing, there is only one thing certain in this life and that is Jesus. He never fails, he never lies, he is faithful.

2. Don’t give in, believe! He knows you. Jesus is not away from us; he is near and he knows us.. When Thomas doubted, Jesus did not scorn him or rebuked him. He dealt with his doubts. Have you asked Jesus to deal with your doubts?

3. He is your Lord. It is personal. When Thomas met the resurrected Jesus. He declared YOU ARE MY LORD. Can you do the same? Who is Jesus for you? Is he YOUR LORD?



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