



April 14, 2024 – Don't Miss...The Gift of Questions & Doubts

Have you ever questioned anything? Ever doubted something someone told you? If we're honest, we all have done both those things! So, why does the disciple Thomas get a bad rap and becomes known as "doubting Thomas" for all time? Join us this weekend as we look at the gift of Thomas' and our own questions and doubts!

Scripture:

Isaiah 43:1-3 NLT

But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. ³ For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

John 20:19-29 NLT

That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁰ As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! ²¹ Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." ²² Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." ²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), 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."

Questions:

- What are some of the things in your life that you question? Have doubts about?
- What do you do when you have questions about something or doubt something/someone?
- In your faith journey, when have you doubted God? Or God's Word? What questions do you have for God?
- This week, try being proactive in two things: 1) search for answers where answers might be found, and 2) try choosing to trust God even in the midst of your doubt and questions.

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Isaiah 41:10

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 31:6

Wednesday: Hebrews 11:1

Thursday: Psalm 50:15

Friday: 1 John 4:18