

ONLY BELIEVE!!!!
Week #2
Stop Doubting And Only Believe!
John 20

What is the antagonist of belief, it is doubt (**the jury is still out**) / unbelief.

The father of a demon possessed young son – *All things are possible to those who believe.* (help my unbelief).

Today we will be in the *Gospel of John* chapter 20 as we look at a disciple who had a conflict within himself about his risen Savior.

John 20:19 –

- The city is abuzz about this man named Jesus who is supposed to have been risen from the dead (**over 500 witnesses**).
- In the evening of the resurrection, the disciples have been given the news, and they are boldly proclaiming the good news of the risen Savior.
 - The doors were shut (**some translations say the door was also locked**), out of what, fear of the Jews.
- Then Jesus (**remember last week the word amazed**) appears in the MIDST of them.
- He speaks 4 words to them, “*peace be with you.*”
 - In the Jewish culture, to wish one peace was to wish them all the fullness and happiness that God intended.
 - **John 10:10.**

John 20:20

- Many will ask for evidence of the risen Savior:
 - Multiple proofs of identification (**the Patriot Act**)
 - Jesus shows them His hands.
 - Jesus shows them His side.
- Once the disciples see the evidence it says they “rejoiced” which means they had their gladness restored.

John 20:21-22

- Jesus commissions His disciples to continue the mission that the Father had sent Him to perform.
 - **Luke 19:7-10.**
- What a humongous mission, but He also gives them the promise of the power to accomplish that mission, the Holy Spirit.

But one of the disciples was not there, Thomas (3/1).

John 20:25.

- The verb used here means that the disciples “kept” telling Thomas over and over again.
- **“I will not believe!” (Again, 4 words)**
- Thomas – twin – believer & doubter. (similar to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde)

8 days pass and then Jesus appears to His disciples again, but this time Thomas is present.

John 20:26-29.

- Again, the disciples are secluded in a shut room, Jesus appears in their midst as before, and Jesus speaks the same 4 words to them.
- Jesus then walks over to Thomas:
 - Here is what you said that you need to believe, go ahead and take your hands and touch my scars.
 - Jesus words are, **“stop becoming faithless but become a believer.”**
 - Jesus saw a dangerous process developing in the heart of Thomas and He desired to stop it.
 - Hebrews 3:12 -
- Thomas response to the offer of Jesus is simply a claim to who Jesus really is, **“My Lord and my God!”**
 - II Timothy 2:13 - ***If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.***

Psalm 94:19 - ***When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer.*** – (New Living Translation)