

I DOUBT IT
180 Church – Transformation Series - Pt 10
Pastor Harlyn – 3.12.2023
John 20:19-29

John 20:19-29 “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

“Real Christians DO have doubts!”

“Now that I’m a Christian, I do have moods in which the whole thing looks very improbable, but when I was an atheist, I had moods in which Christianity looked terribly probable.” CS Lewis - “Mere Christianity”

Genesis 32:27-28 “And he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.”²⁸ Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

_____ = **Wrestles With God**

Psalms 44:9 “But you have rejected us and disgraced us and have not gone out with our armies.”

Psalms 44:23-26 “Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!²⁴ Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?²⁵ For our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly clings to the ground.²⁶ Rise up; come to our help! Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!”

John 20: 30-31 “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

John 20:24-25 “Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

John 20:26-28 “Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!””

Luke 7:21-22 “In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²² And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them.”

Be an equal opportunity _____!

LOOK IN:

1. What doubts did you have, or do you have, regarding the person and work of Jesus?
2. If possible, share a time that wrestling with doubt led you to a more confident faith.
3. How would you characterize your pursuit of God? Wholehearted? Something less?
4. When, if ever, have you experienced Jesus’ peace, despite unanswered questions?
5. How has the purpose of John, as expressed in 20:30-31 been realized in you?