

Old Wives' Tale?

“ Encouraging Truth if You Struggle with Easter ”

1. It's Okay to Have Honest Questions vv. 19-25

2. God Will Give You Enough Answers vv. 26-28

3. You Must Be Willing to Step Out in Faith v. 29



Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- a) Read John 20:19-25. How did Thomas initially react to the resurrection of Jesus? Why?
- b) Given Thomas was a disciple, what does this highlight about Point #1? How does this encourage you?

Point #2

- a) Read John 20:26-28. How did Jesus respond to Thomas and also hold him accountable? Be specific.
- b) How does this relate to Point #2? Why is this important to remember? Be specific. How does this adjust you?

Point #3

- a) Read John 20:29. What was Jesus saying to Thomas about future generations? (i.e., you and me)
- b) How does this relate to Point #3? What will this prevent from taking place? How does this challenge you?

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message. A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY // Read John 20:10-18, 11:25, 1 Corinthians 15:12-22

- Explain why Easter is the centerpiece of Christianity. What would happen if the resurrection wasn't true?
- How often do you think about Easter being a deal breaker in your faith? How have you undervalued it?
- Why do you think this will be a challenge in today's culture? How would this impact celebrating Easter?

TUESDAY // Read John 20:19-25, 14:1-5, Luke 11:9, Deuteronomy 4:29, Jeremiah 29:13

- How did Thomas respond to the reports from others about Jesus' resurrection? How was this typical for Thomas?
- Given that Thomas was a disciple of Jesus for 3 years, what does this highlight about Jesus and doubters?
- What does this imply about your questions and God? How does this encourage you? Be specific.

WEDNESDAY // Read John 20:26-28, Matthew 12:36-37, Romans 14:12, 1 Corinthians 5:5, Hebrews 6:4-8

- How did Jesus respond to Thomas' doubts? In what way did Jesus also hold Thomas accountable?
- How does this highlight the truth of Point #2? What does this also imply about questioning? Be specific.
- How can questioning God be used to perpetually avoid accountability? How does this help you?

THURSDAY // Read John 20:29, 10:22-42, Luke 13:10-17, 10:13-14

- What was Jesus saying to Thomas about future generations? (i.e., physical vs. spiritual)
- Why is this important? How can people today try to demand "evidence" as a way to avoid faith?
- How can personal agendas actually blind people to the evidence? How can you avoid this trap?

FRIDAY // Read John 20:29, Mark 10:13-16, Hebrews 11:1-6

- How does Scripture describe biblical faith? How is it a combination of evidence and trust?
- In what way did Jesus use children to define Easter? What does this prevent from happening?
- List two ways you can tend to doubt God. How can you apply an Easter type faith to move forward?

SATURDAY // Read Matthew 27:62-28:20, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

- Describe the two responses to Jesus' resurrection in today's reading. How does this take place today?
- Why is the Easter message critical to following Jesus? How easy is it for you to believe in Easter?
- What is often overlooked when it comes to Easter? (i.e., eyewitnesses) How can this help with doubt?

MEDITATION VERSE: *²⁷Then he (Jesus) 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"*

John 20:29