



## Part 1: Questions, Skeptics and Living with the Answers

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### Tracing the Questions of the Doubting Follower of Jesus

<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." – *John 11:16*

- Thomas began as a devoted man of conviction

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." – *John 14:5-7*

- Thomas wanted answers to his questions and he asked the One who could answer
- Jesus was willing to give the answers
- Thomas deepened his conviction with the answers of Jesus

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." – *John 20:24-29*

- Thomas needed to see with his own eyes the answer to his question: "Is Jesus really alive?"
- Jesus met Thomas in his question
- Thomas deepened his conviction with his declaration of faith
- Thomas' questions led him to a deeper passion for sharing Jesus

*(Continues on back)*

## Three Questions to Consider

*What is my burning question for God?*

*Am I willing to wait for and live with His answer?*

*Will I actively use the answer to share Jesus with other people who have questions?*

## Next Steps

Make a list of your burning questions and track the answers. Actively look for the answers by asking and reflecting on the Biblical answers.

### Small Group Questions



- 1) Why is the sky blue? Use whatever you have to in order to find the answer. Be honest, did you know the real answer?
- 2) Thomas is known as "Doubting Thomas." After looking deeper into his life this weekend, do you believe his title is warranted or did he get a bad rap?
- 3) What does it take for you to be convinced of a reality? In other words, what do you need in order to be fully convinced of a truth?
- 4) What do you do when that proof is not readily available? Where does faith come in?
- 5) Are the answers God has given you to your burning questions prompting you to share with someone who does not know Jesus? Why or why not?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?