

Unfinished Business – Honesty

John 20:24-30

April 25, 2021

Next Steps

OPENING PRAYER:

Great God and Lord of life, sometimes it is hard to believe. We find ourselves like Thomas, needing to see clearly and fully. Sometimes it is hard to believe that the resurrection of Jesus Christ really happened. Forgive our doubt and slowness of heart. Help us to believe! Help us to believe anew and in the great power of Easter life! Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree or disagree with in the sermon this week?
- Where did you see God this week?
- Science now shows there are many types of different ways people learn: touch, listening, interaction, dialogue. How do you learn? If you encountered Jesus, how would you want to know?
- What is your stance on doubting or questioning God?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read John 20:24-30.

- What jumps out at you in this scripture?
- How do you interpret Jesus response to Thomas? (angry, tender, loving, frustrated, terse, etc)
- What helps you in dealing with doubts?
- What doubts or questions do you have right now? How can your friends/group help you?

NEXT STEPS:

- Where could you use Jesus' peace right now? (relationship, fear, work, etc?) Write them down or say them out loud in prayer.
- What's that inner doubt you are extremely reluctant to express. Pray about the right mentor to reach out and faithfully struggle with your doubts like Thomas.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

O God,
since you have raised the fallen world
by the humiliation of your Son:
Grant continual gladness to your faithful people,
that those whom you have delivered
from the dangers of everlasting death
may receive from you eternal joy;
through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen. (Traditional Prayer of the Day)