



THOMAS: *Courageous & vulnerable*

John 20:19-31



THOMAS: *the man*

- ❖ Thomas Didymus - The twin
- ❖ One of the 12 disciples
- ❖ Most of what we know is John's Gospel
- ❖ Tradition: missionary to India and was martyred 21 December AD 72

DOUBT: *what is it?*

Uncertainty, lack of conviction, lies between belief & disbelief

Causes:

➤ *God doesn't act the way I expected OR I don't understand what's happening*

➤ *It might be not trusting others' faith*

➤ *Doubt is different from unbelief*

➤ *Doubt is not sin*

THOMAS: *where are you (physically)?* **(19-25)**

Where was Thomas on resurrection Sunday?

Where was Thomas when the other disciples gathered?

DO NOT remove yourself from the place of God's blessing

The best place to be is where God wants you

THOMAS: where are you (spiritually)? (26-29)

Seven days later...

- ☑ Jesus care-fronts Thomas – an act of love
- ☑ Thomas needs visual & tangible evidence
- ☑ His confession: *“My Lord & my God!”*
- ☑ What proof do I need?

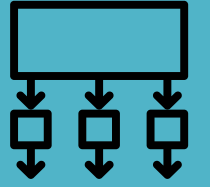
Resurrection belief (1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

¹² But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. ¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

COURAGE: *and blessed!* (29-31)

- ✓ Blessed are those who believe & not see (29)
- ✓ But these are written that you may believe & have life in His name (31)
- ✓ Reading, studying and meditating on John's Gospel is a great place to start in addressing doubt

What are your next steps?



Acknowledge your doubt/s



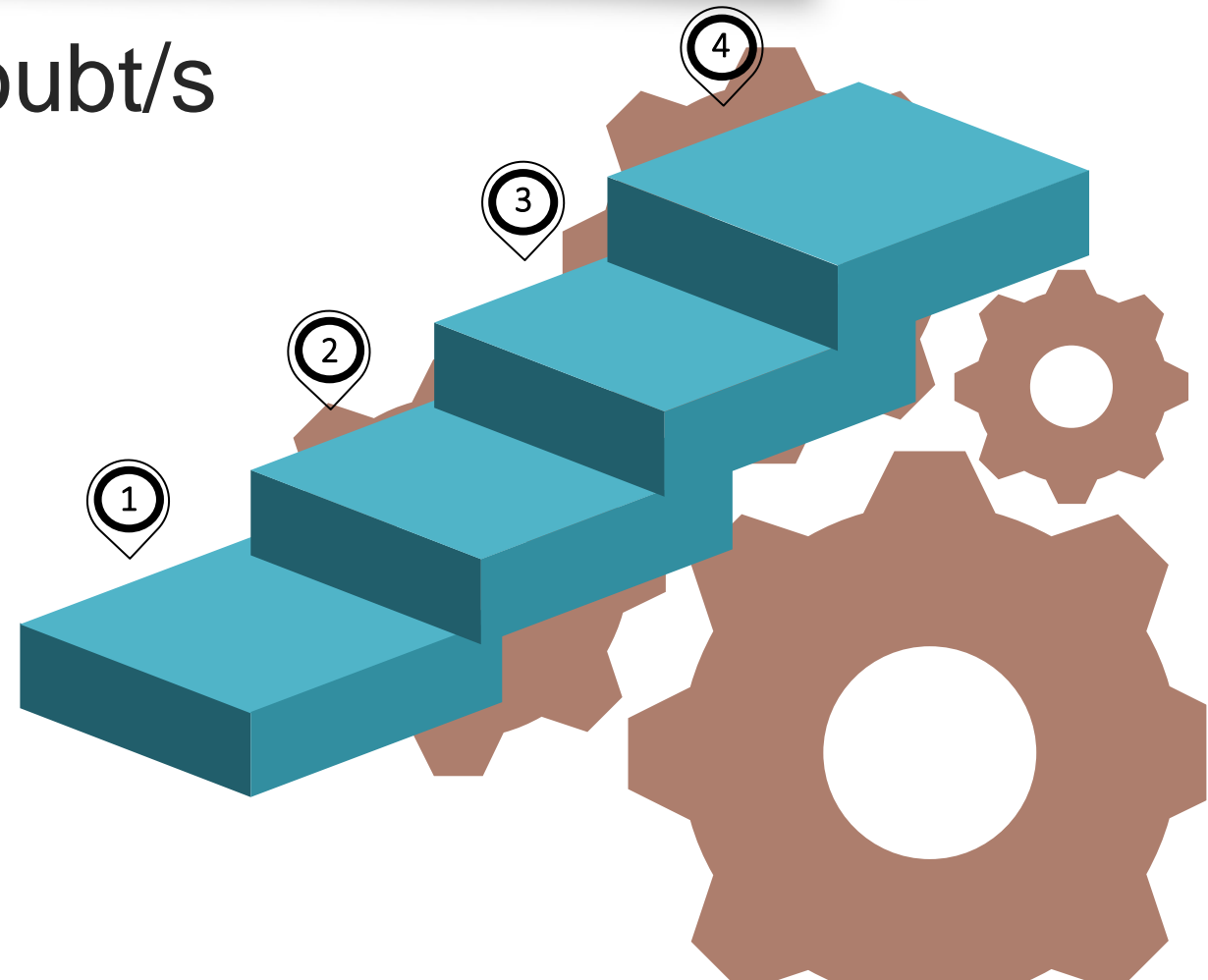
Keep an open mind



Seek answers



Depend on Jesus' love





What have you learnt?



COURAGE
LIVING FOR GOD IN DIFFICULT TIMES