

8. In your view, is Thomas' response to the news of resurrection unreasonable (20:24-25)? Why or why not?

9. How does Jesus respond to Thomas' doubts (20:26-29)?

10. When have you had doubts about your faith in Christ? What doubts concerning your faith in Christ do you want to discuss with a knowledgeable believer?

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Scott Sterner, Dir. of Church Multiplication, EFCA Forest Lakes District

Pray that God would provide the teams and resources necessary to implement our vision for assessing and training church planters.

Sermon Notes

"Check it Out!"

John 20

December 4, 2016

Introduction:

1. Every character was initially _____.

2. They _____.

3. What they _____ changed their _____.

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 12-04-16

Questions adapted from Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., *John: Life Change Series*, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, pp. 189-97; Jim Petersen, *Living Proof*, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1989, pp. 246-47; James Galvin, ed., et al., *New Testament Lesson Maker*, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 185-87.

Getting Started:

1. As you meet as a group, ask several people to tell briefly what convinces them that Jesus was really raised from the dead.

Digging Deeper:

2. Read John 20. Three different verbs with the meaning "to see" occur frequently in chapter 20. Why do you suppose John emphasizes seeing in this chapter? (What does seeing have to do with the point of the chapter?)
3. What is the significance that the linen wrappings were left, but the body was gone (20:5-7)?

4. Put yourself in Mary's place in 20:10-18. How would she feel ...

alone at the empty tomb (20:10-15)?

when Jesus says her name (20:16)?

5. Many have pointed out the parallels between Jesus' description of the good shepherd (10:3-4) and the way Mary recognized Jesus when He said her name (20:16). Does Jesus call you by name? Why is this important to you? How does it affect the way you feel about and deal with your circumstances?
6. Notice the new relationship between man and God in 20:17. Jesus refers to God for the first time as "My Father and your Father" and "My God and your God." How did His death and resurrection bring about this new relationship (see 1 Pet. 3:18)?
7. "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (20:21). What does this comparison tell you about the mission Jesus has given to His followers?