

Jesus Tried by the Romans

April 1, 2018

Passage: John 20:19-29

Main Point: Because Jesus rose from the dead, we should fear nothing.

Case Study:

A non-believing friend of yours has started investigating the resurrection of Jesus. He never believed in God prior to this pursuit, but his spouse has become a Christian. As a skeptic he has his doubts. Nonetheless, because of the changes he has seen in his wife and her invitation to go to church with her, he is open to the possibility that God might be real.

What can you do to help your friend encounter Jesus? What information or resources can you provide to validate the resurrection of Jesus? What aspects of your life could be a testimony to the reality of God to your friend?

The Word:

1. What was the significance of the doors being locked when Jesus appeared to His disciples? (v.19, 26)
2. Why did Thomas doubt that Jesus had appeared to his friends? How do you evaluate Thomas' need more information? Was Thomas a doubter or was he seeking more information? (v.24-25)
3. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Who is He referring to? How does that cause you to respond? (v.29)

The World:

1. Jesus said to His disciples, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." What are some characteristics of Jesus' ministry that can guide us in our ministries? (v.21)
2. How does the Holy Spirit impact our discussions? (v.22)
3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. Why should we forgive people of their sins? What is our responsibility to the world as followers of Jesus? (v.23)

The Application:

1. Have you believed in Jesus as your Lord and Savior? Why do you believe?
2. Do you have any doubts about God's involvement in your life? How does the resurrection reassure you of the joy you should have?
3. Have you ever asked God for a sign? Has He ever given you one? Should we be cautious in asking God to prove Himself?

<u>What Questions do I have for my Family Group?</u>	<u>Key Cross References:</u>
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<u>How to use this guide:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

- **Study and discuss the passage**, not necessarily the outline of the sermon
- Don't feel pressure to ask all the questions, use your discernment based on time and needs of the group
- Engage the mind with good doctrine and move to the heart pushing toward application (A Key diagnostic for the leader to discern the health of his group is to listen "heart" conversation.