Day 16

### As I’ve been reading the gospels and their accounts of the resurrection of Jesus, there has been one overarching theme that comes again and again.

### Initial disbelief!

### And who can blame those first witnesses. Empty tombs, sketchy eyewitness accounts, rumours, high stakes politically… almost nothing could be ruled in or out. To be honest, I think I’d be skeptical… or at least not sure what to think.

### John 20:24-29

### Jesus Appears to Thomas

***24****Now Thomas (also known as Didymus[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+20&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26892a)*]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.****25****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.”*

***26****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!”****27****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.”*

***28****Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”*

***29****Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*

Thomas goes down in history as a doubter. Maybe that’s a little unfair. All he had to go on was the unbelievable account of the other disciples.

Remember that Jesus had invited them to touch him and prove that he was no ghost. Thomas had been missing then.

So Thomas insisted that unless he had the same opportunity, he would not believe.

Jesus came to them again. This time with Thomas present. Thomas was invited to touch Jesus… and he believed!

I love that Jesus wasn’t going to leave Thomas behind. Jesus addressed Thomas directly. This encounter with the 11 appears to have been just for Thomas.

It occurs to me that different people meet Jesus in different ways. Some hear and respond to his Good News. But maybe there are some like Thomas who need to experience Jesus.

Either way it’s a blessing! The most important thing is that we believe!