



Sermon Discussion Guide That You May Believe - James Junior April 7, 2024

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
- When is something you have doubted, even though friends or those around you may have recommended it?
- Describe a time when someone else went out of their way to meet you where you were at. How did you feel in that time?

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
- **Read John 20: 19-31**
- What is the setting of this story?
 - Where are the disciples as this story takes place?
 - What has happened just before the passage?
- What does Jesus say and do in this passage?
 - What is the same or different in the two visits he makes to the disciples?
- How does this story fit in with the stated purpose of John, found in verse 31?
 - What other stories from the series connect for you with the purpose stated in John 20:31?

Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
- What is shown about the character of Christ in this passage?



Sermon Discussion Guide

That You May Believe - James Junior

April 7, 2024

- What encouraged you in reading this passage? What challenged you?
- When have you grappled with questions or doubts that impacted your faith walk?
 - Questions or doubts that prevented you from fully committing to Jesus?
 - Questions or doubts you wrestled with in the midst of your walk with Jesus?
 - How did Jesus meet you in your questions and doubts? (In prayer? Scripture? Community or relationships? Other?)
- James discussed faith shown by Thomas in his response, "My Lord and my God" (vs. 28). When has that model resonated with you in your walk with Christ?
 - A first time you made that faith your own?
 - A renewal or returning to that call?

Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
- How might we best walk in community with our questions and doubts?
 - As a small group?
 - As a church?
- What questions are you carrying or working through in your faith right now?
 - How might we support one another with those?
 - How can we take that question to Jesus in the week ahead?
- When you look at the week ahead, how might you lean into Thomas' example of faith, and his words "My Lord and my God?"
 - What steps might you take to lean in fully with Jesus?
 - How might you return to those words through the week?

Time of Prayer