

**Title:** Doubting Thomas

**Text:** John 20:24-31

**Target:** Jesus doesn't shame doubt, He shows up in it.

- I. **The Root of Doubt:**
  - A. **Separation:** *"Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came." (Vs. 24)*
  - B. **Sorrow:** *"So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side...'" (Vs. 25)*
  - C. **Skepticism:** *"I will never believe." (Vs. 25)*
- II. **The Results of Doubt:** *"...for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind." (James 1:6)*
  - A. **Disrupts your Assurance:** *"Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." (1 John 5:12-13)*
  - B. **Distorts your Identity:** *"And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God." (Galatians 4:6-7)*
  - C. **Delays your Obedience:** *"For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7)*
  - D. **Defeats your Mission:** *"And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'" (Mark 16:15)*
- III. **The Revelation in Doubt:**
  - A. **His Pursuit:** *"...eight days later, his disciples were inside again," (Vs. 26a)*
  - B. **His Peace:** *"Peace be with you." (Vs. 26b)*
  - C. **His Patience:** *"Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.'" (Vs. 27)*
  - D. **His Promise:** *"Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'" (Vs. 28-29)*
- IV. **The Reassurance in Doubt:**
  - A. **Examine your Faith:** *"Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? unless indeed you fail to meet the test!" (2 Cor. 13:5)*
    1. **Decision:** *"Whosoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)*
    2. **Direction:** *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)*
    3. **Desire:** *"For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure." (Phil. 2:13)*
    4. **Distinction:** *"You will recognize them by their fruits." (Matthew 7:20)*
  - B. **Evidence of Grace:** *"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God," (Ephesians 2:8-9)*

**Takeaway:** "Don't doubt in the dark what God showed you in the light." Corrie ten Boom