

*“6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,
7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.*

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;” Colossians 2:6-9

C. **Reap** His **blessings** (v 29-31)

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

Will You Believe And Find Confidence?

“but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” John 20:31

“24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.

25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;

26 For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.” Proverbs 3:24-26

40 DAYS WITH JESUS Believe & Find Confidence Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. After His resurrection Jesus spent **forty** days on the earth (Acts 1:3). During this time He made **ten** appearances.

Jesus' Post-resurrection Appearances

- **To Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18; Mark 16:9-11).**
- To the women returning from the tomb (Matthew 28:8-10).
- To Peter later in the day (Luke 24:33-34; I Corinthians 15:5).
- To the disciples going to Emmaus in the evening (Luke 24:13-32).
- **To the apostles except Thomas (John 20:19-24; Luke 24:35-45).**
- **To the apostles a week later with Thomas present (John 20:24-29; Mark 16:14).**
- **In Galilee to the seven by the Lakes of Tiberias (John 21:1-25).**
- In Galilee on a mountain to the apostles and over 500 believers (I Corinthians 15:6; Matthew 28:16-20).
- At Jerusalem and Bethany again to James (I Corinthians 15:7).
- **At Olivet and the ascension (Acts 1:3-12; Luke 24:50-53).**

B. In this series you will discover what Jesus did on earth for 40 days after the Resurrection and what you will find when you believe in Jesus.

Mar 27	Believe & Find Life
Apr 3	Believe & Find Hope
Apr 10	Believe & Find Peace
TODAY	Believe & Find Confidence
Apr 24	Believe & Find Forgiveness
May 1	Believe & Find Power

C. **TEXT:** John 20:24-31 (Pew Bible/Pg.1068/New Test.)

HOW TO BELIEVE & FIND CONFIDENCE

I. THE CAUSES OF DOUBT (20:24-25)

A. Removal from fellowship (v 24).

Thomas lived with doubt for a week because he missed a Sunday night service where Jesus showed up (20:19-23).

“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”
Matthew 18:20

“not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”
Hebrews 10:25

B. Requirements for believing (v 25).

Thomas lived with doubt because he put unrealistic expectations on his believing:

- He said I have to see and I have to touch before I will believe.

*“16 Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away.
17 And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha,
18 where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center.”*
John 19:16-18

“But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.”
John 19:34

- The Bible says we have to be willing to believe without seeing.

“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”
II Corinthians 5:7

II. THE CURE FOR DOUBT (20:26-31)

Three ways you can boost your confidence:

A. Receive His Word (vs 26-27).

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
Romans 10:17

*“23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,
24 because
“All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,
25 But the word of the LORD endures forever.” Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.*

*1 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking,
2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby”* I Peter 1:23-2:2

B. Renew your confession (v 28).

*“32 Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.
33 But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”*
Matthew 10:32-33

My: Personal

Lord: Leader of your life.

And: Both

My: Personal

God: Not just a great man, teacher or prophet.