

Do Christians Doubt?

Scripture Reading — John 20:24-29

[Thomas] 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." — John 20:25

Thomas could not believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. It was all too much, too overwhelming. He wanted physical proof, so he said, "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."

He's not alone. Many Christians have doubts at one time or another. Not long ago a close relative told me that as he gets older, he often has doubts. A young woman, shortly before she died, asked me, "Can I really believe what you have said about life after death?" Many of us would love to have proof that what the Bible teaches is true. Some of us have felt like the -father who cried out to Jesus, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24).

Often we are afraid to admit we have doubts because of what others might think. But don't be afraid to talk about your doubts and admit them to the Lord. He understands. He did not rebuke or shame Thomas. He helped him overcome his doubts by giving him the proof he asked for.

The Lord Jesus still wants to help us overcome our doubts. Turn to his Word and hear him say, "Stop doubting and believe." Talk to someone who can help turn your doubts into faith. Most of all, ask Jesus to help you trust in him.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, come to us as we struggle with our doubts, and give us the assurance we look for. In your name we ask this. Amen.

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Written by Arthur Schoonveld — <https://todaydevotional.com/authors/arthur-j-schoonveld>

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