

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Pray the Lord's Prayer together or individually to begin the time (Mtt 6:9-13).

Share with the Group:

Did you grow up in a home where questions were welcomed?

Was anything "off limits?" If so, what?

What about your church? Were questions and doubts welcomed or not?

How did you know? What was this like for you?

Was there ever a time when you had significant doubts about your faith or questions about God? What was it like? How did you navigate it?

Read John 20:19-29

Why do the disciples believe Jesus has been raised? Why does Thomas doubt? Is his doubt reasonable?

Why does Jesus wait to appear to Thomas? Might there be something good about letting people sit in doubt? What?

What does Jesus do to meet Thomas in his doubt and answer his questions?

What does this reveal about Jesus?

How does Thomas change after this encounter with Jesus?

In what ways is Thomas a model for what it means to be a disciple?

Consider the following:

Why can doubt be scary for people?

Why is it important to make space for questions and doubt?

Read Jude 22. How do we apply this both to others and to ourselves?

How can doubt be a catalyst for deeper faith?

Is there currently something in your life or your faith you are doubting?

Have you been able to be honest about it with yourself, with others, and with God?

If so, how have you been received?

If not, what is stopping you?

What do you need from God in this time?

What does it look like for you to be faithful and keep "showing up" in the midst of this doubt?

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