

We continue with “Season 2” of Dr. Baucom’s sermon series on 24 hours in Jesus’ life. Last week, we began “Season 2” with the resurrection and looking at what the women had been told to do. This week, we’ll explore Thomas’ reaction to hearing from the disciples that Jesus was alive in his sermon “**Seeing is Believing**”.

1. Have you heard news that seemed too good to be true? That you couldn’t really believe had happened until you saw it?
 - What was so hard about believing without seeing?
 - Have there been things that you saw that were still hard to believe? Why?

Remember Easter Sunday started a new day for the shocked and grieving followers of Jesus. Shock and grief can do strange things to our minds and lives.

2. John gives us a glimpse into Thomas’ character. Read the following passages:

- **John 11:16**

- **John 14:5-6**

- **John 20: 24-25**

- What do you learn about Thomas? How would you describe his character?
- What in the scripture gives you this idea?
- Have you ever felt yourself taking on his qualities and nature? Why? What was the incident?

3. **Read and reflect on John 20:19-31.** Sit with this passage for a few minutes. Then **reread verse 24-29** again, reflecting on Thomas feeling left out of the first encounter with Jesus and what it stirred within him.
 - Can you identify with missing a great encounter with Jesus? How did you feel? What did it stir in you?
 - What might be behind Thomas’ unbelief?

- In **verse 25** Thomas seems to set up his own ‘test’. What is it? What does it say about Thomas himself?
- Thomas’ test was to both see & touch. Do we/you ever set your own tests for Jesus to pass or respond to?
 - Why do you think you/we do this?
 - What does this say about you/us? And our relationship with Jesus?
- How does Jesus respond to Thomas’ unbelief? (**verses 26-27**)?
- How does Thomas respond to seeing Jesus himself?

4. Read **John 20:1-10**; who else needed a little seeing to believe?
5. In **Luke 24:25** what does Jesus say about the disciples’ ability to believe?
6. What do the following verses say about seeing and believing?
 - 1 John 1:1-3
 - 1 Peter 1:18
 - 1 Corinthians 15:3-8
7. Imagine that Jesus is speaking to you when he says; **“because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believe.”** Can you believe what you have not seen when it comes to how Jesus is working and moving in your life? Pause and reflect on your answer. Still yourself and allow God to speak to you.