

Following Jesus ... to the Upper Room II

Jesus Appears to Thomas - John 20:24-31

Introduction

™“follow me” - *John 1:43*

™who did Jesus meet? What does he require of them? And of us?

1. Whom did Jesus meet at the Upper Room?

™Jesus broke all barriers to reach out to Thomas; to clear his doubts and to reassure him - *Jn 20:27*,
read also *Jn 13:1*

2. What did Jesus promise him?

™Thomas was not wrong in his search for truth. He did not want to ‘blindly’ believe - *Jn 20:25*.
The Christian faith is based on truth.
Not on man-made stories or traditions.

™Thomas was not complete in his method of searching for the truth; there are other methods.
The main method of trusting in Jesus today is not through the eyes or hands (though as the living Christ, He can reveal Himself through supernatural means); but through what God has revealed to us in His words - *Jn 20:27-29*. See also *1 Pet 1:8*.

3. What does the resurrection of Jesus mean to us?

™“... these are written so that you may believe” - *Jn 20:21; Lk 24:44*.

Conclusion

™“Faith comes by hearing the word of Christ” - *Rom 10:17*.

For reflection

1. How did you come to believe in Jesus? Through the words of your parents? The words of a preacher? A dream? An answer to prayer? Share.
2. Read *John 20:24-31*. Why do you think Thomas asked for those signs? Was he right in doing so? What signs do we ask for, in order that we may believe in Jesus. What do our friends ask for, before they believe? What do you think Jesus would do to their requests?
3. Read *John 20:28-31*. Why was Thomas commended for his faith? According to Jesus (v29) and St John (v31), what would be the normal way a person come to trust in Jesus? Read also *Lk 24:44*, *Rom 10:17*, *1 Pet 1:8*.
4. “How may I know more about Jesus?” - how would you help a friend come to know Jesus.

- Rector