

- I. Our personal profile produces peculiar predicaments
- A. God grants each person a unique package John 11:6; 14:5; Matt 12:34; Numbers 32:6-15; Acts 2:5-13; Rom 14:1ff; I Cor 12-14
- B. Our situations are special, our sins the same I Cor 10:13; I Tim 1:19; John 17:7-8; Luke 18:31-33; 24:45-46
- II. Jesus steps in
- A. He brings peace to each Ps 139:13-16; Rev 2:17; Rom 12:1-2; Gal 5:1; John 8:32
- B. He gives us what we need to succeed I Cor 10:13; II Pet 1:3-4; John 20:25-27; 1:47-50
- III. Jesus untwists our tweaks to make us trophies
- A. He employs our uniqueness for His glorious purpose Acts 9:15; II Tim 2:20-21
- B. What was our shame becomes His glory John 1:1; 20:28; II Cor 5:7; I Pet 5:8

²⁴ Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he 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 it." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Care Group Questions

“Glory Story”

Text: John 20:24-31

Dave Bechtel

April 2, 2006

1. Were you at Bethel two years ago on Easter when we used “the bridge” as a means of people expressing their commitment to trust in and follow Jesus? If so, what do you remember? What do you think about this coming Easter’s standards for crossing the bridge? Are you thinking about volunteering to be a “bridge guide”?
2. Had you heard the “bricklayer accident report” before? What are your thoughts about the man’s predicament?
3. From what you know of Thomas (as seen here in our verses, 11:16, 14:5), what can you surmise about his unique personality, giftedness, etc.? What do you think about his response to the other disciples’ testimony and what he claims he will need to believe in Jesus’ resurrection?
4. What have you learned about your own personality, giftedness, experiences? Do you think you would respond like Thomas? If not, how?
5. What, according to our verses, is Thomas’ sin in all this? What makes his response sinful (isn’t he just being honest)?
6. What do we learn about Jesus by His response to Thomas? How does He show here that He is the good shepherd?
7. Why is Thomas’ response so significant that John ends his gospel (chapter 21 being added by him as an appendix of sorts) with it?
8. What, according to our verses, is John’s purpose in writing his gospel? To whom would you recommend reading it?
9. Thomas’ doubt and Jesus’ response to it (and Thomas’ declaration) have been used for God’s glory for two thousand years. What formerly “shameful” thing in your life has God turned into something that is a glory for Him?

Care Group Questions

“Glory Story”

Text: John 20:24-31

Dave Bechtel

April 2, 2006

1. Were you at Bethel two years ago on Easter when we used “the bridge” as a means of people expressing their commitment to trust in and follow Jesus? If so, what do you remember? What do you think about this coming Easter’s standards for crossing the bridge? Are you thinking about volunteering to be a “bridge guide”?
2. Had you heard the “bricklayer accident report” before? What are your thoughts about the man’s predicament?
3. From what you know of Thomas (as seen here in our verses, 11:16, 14:5), what can you surmise about his unique personality, giftedness, etc.? What do you think about his response to the other disciples’ testimony and what he claims he will need to believe in Jesus’ resurrection?
4. What have you learned about your own personality, giftedness, experiences? Do you think you would respond like Thomas? If not, how?
5. What, according to our verses, is Thomas’ sin in all this? What makes his response sinful (isn’t he just being honest)?
6. What do we learn about Jesus by His response to Thomas? How does He show here that He is the good shepherd?
7. Why is Thomas’ response so significant that John ends his gospel (chapter 21 being added by him as an appendix of sorts) with it?
8. What, according to our verses, is John’s purpose in writing his gospel? To whom would you recommend reading it?
9. Thomas’ doubt and Jesus’ response to it (and Thomas’ declaration) have been used for God’s glory for two thousand years. What formerly “shameful” thing in your life has God turned into something that is a glory for Him?