



Don't Disbelieve
“Life in His Name” Series
John 20:24-31, p.907
November 10, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God explains how he ministers to his people through the Word of God.

The Text: John 20:24-31

- 1) The reader of the Gospel of John should trust the apostolic witness of God's Word (vv. 24-29).

How exactly do we encounter the Lord?

(a) Jesus' presence is now expressed by the indwelling Holy Spirit in the gathering of the local church.

(b) Jesus' teaching is now expressed by the inspired Holy Scripture in the preaching of the local church.

- 2) The purpose of the Gospel of John is that the reader may put their faith in Jesus Christ (vv. 30-31).

In what exactly does the Gospel of John ask us to believe?

(a) To believe that Jesus is our access to God's person – the representative of God.

(b) To believe that Jesus is our access to God's grace – the ministry of God.

(c) To believe that Jesus is our access to God's life – the life of God.

Response

Receive the ministry of John the Apostle – believe in Jesus Christ!

Small Group Questions for John 20:24-31

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- 1) Starter Question: How is the Bible important to your Christian life?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Why did Thomas not believe the eyewitness testimony of the other disciples (vv. 24-25)?
- 4) Why does Jesus rebuke Thomas in v. 27? What did Thomas do inappropriately?
- 5) What does the two-fold confession of Thomas in v. 28 tell us about his belief in Jesus?
- 6) The closing statement of v. 29 is the key to this passage. How does Thomas serve as an illustration of later believers, even of those who read the Gospel of John?
- 7) Which describes the point of vv. 24-29, and why: (a) Jesus is saying that we should believe blindly without sight, or (b) Jesus is saying we should believe the witness of the apostles?
- 8) Does faith in God require evidence and proof, and how should the Bible be a source of evidence or proof for Christians?
- 9) According to vv. 30-31, what is the Gospel of John intended to do to its readers?
- 10) Personally, what has the Gospel of John taught you?

Further study this week: Select verses on the Bible: 1 Pet. 1:25, 1 Thess. 2:13, 2 Pet 3:16, 2 Tim. 2:15, Acts 17:11, Col. 3:16, Eph. 6:17, Heb. 4:12, Isa. 34:16, Isa. 55:11, Job 23:12, John 5:39, John 10:35, Luke 11:28, Luke 24:45, Matt. 4:4, Psalm 12:6, Rev. 1:2, Rev. 22:19, Rom. 10:17, James 1:21-23, 2 Tim. 3:15-17.