

Maranatha Fellowship CRC
618 W Arrington St., Farmington, NM 87401

April 7, 2024

Scriptures: John 20:19-31

Message: Peace Be with You

Outline:

I. Introduction

- A. Story of a Little Boy – “Get Those Germs Off!”
- B. It’s hard to believe without seeing

II. Jesus Appears to His Disciples

- A. Fear paralyzes faith
 - i. Fearful disciples were together behind locked doors, v. 19
 - ii. Jesus did not want his disciple to them in suspense; he showed up and breathed Holy Spirit on them (v. 20-23)
 - iii. Fear paralyzes faith; do not indulge fear
- B. The Story of a Little Girl
- C. Christ’s Spirit Comforts Us
- D. Jesus performs a miracle in Bethany to foreshadow his resurrection

III. Jesus Demonstrates His Divinity

- A. The Lord wants them to believe in his resurrection
- B. His Assurance, “Peace be with you!”
- C. Christ Charges his apostles: “As the Father has sent me I am sending you” (John 20:21)
- D. Christ’s full authority and office work through his apostles

IV. Jesus Appears to Thomas

- A. Other disciples witness to Thomas, he does not believe and seeks hard proofs (v.24-25)
 - i. Jesus stood among disciples and asked Thomas, “Put your finger...stop doubting and believe,”
 - i. Do not become unbelieving (apistos) but believing (pistos)
- B. Thomas utters the greatest confession: “My Lord and my God” (v. 27-28)
- C. Jesus stood among disciples and asked Thomas, “Put your finger...stop doubting and believe,”

D. Some practical implications

- i. Thomas' story could be a gift for people today
- ii. Mother Teresa's temptation to give up, and we have a job to do: we need to continue believing and help people to believe

V. Why Did John Write His Gospel?

- A. Jesus did many other signs in the presence of disciples; they are not recorded in his book (v. 30)
- B. The Good News: "...Believe that Jesus is Messiah, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in his name"

VI. Conclusion

- A. Continue believing in the name of Jesus, Messiah, and the Son of God and have life
- B. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who don't see, yet they believe!" (John 20:29a)