

**PPT Hope Is Here Series: Part 4**  
**“Hope for the Doubter”**  
**Sunday, October 17, 2021**  
**Senior Pastor, Dr. Janet Cook**

**Review:**

1. There is hope for the weary because we don't have to carry our burdens on our own.
2. There is hope for the broken because forgiveness is offered to us in love.
3. There is hope for the underdog because with God we can do anything.
4. Is there hope for the doubter?

**READ John 20:24-25**

“Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”

So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

**POINT #1 – WE DOUBT TO PROTECT OURSELVES**

- We often do not want to believe and hope because we are afraid that God will not come through.

The wrestling match between doubting and believing.

Mark 11:23 – “For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and **does not doubt in his heart**, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.”

Romans 10:9 – “that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe in your heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

What you believe is what you will think about.

Proverbs 23:7a “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...”

I Thessalonians 5:8 – “But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.”

**READ John 20:26-27**

“And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “**Peace to you!**” **Then He said to Thomas**, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

- Whom does he speak to first? Thomas. The doubter.

**POINT #2 – JESUS IS NOT AFRAID OF OUR DOUBT** because honest doubt will find honest answers.

- You should not be afraid of your doubt or other people's doubts.
- You will go from being full of doubt to being full of hope when you find out people care about you enough to walk with you and love you.

### **READ John 20:28-29**

“And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

- Thomas was the greatest doubter but became the disciple who makes the greatest and truest claim of who Jesus is. “My Lord and my God!”
- Jesus was also thinking of you and I, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

### **POINT #3 – WE DO NOT DOUBT WHEN WE TRUST THE SOURCE**

Thomas had first-hand evidence that came directly from the source. This caused his doubts to melt away.

- Our doubts can turn to hope when we too go directly to the source and find that Jesus is trustworthy.
- When you recognize that Jesus with you in the middle of your doubts, you discover that hope is here.

Colossians 1:26-27 “the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Say these things out loud:

1. Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.
2. Jesus is not afraid of my doubt, and he will meet me right where I am.
3. I believe and trust that Jesus overcame death, and the Holy Spirit gives me to power to be a witness to others about the Hope that is in me!