

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2025! Leading to Worship Sunday, April 27, 2025

Reading: John 20:19-31

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website and St. John's YouTube channel. This week, we focus not on the doubt, but the gift we are given to believe – and respond to God's love – without seeing! Click here:

<https://youtu.be/Uc1Y6RdjWhE> Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- In the evening on the first day of the week, the disciples were hiding in a locked room. Jesus appeared among them, and said, "Peace be with you." (John 20:19) Jesus showed them his hands and side, and they were glad when they saw him. Jesus breathed into them the Holy Spirit and charged them to go forth.
- Thomas had not been with them, and when he heard that Jesus had come, he declared that he would not believe unless he saw Jesus' hands, and put his own hand in Jesus' side.
- Eight days later, with the door again locked, Jesus again appeared, and Thomas believed. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)

Two Questions

- How did the disciples initially respond to the news of Easter? Would you, too, have been scared and hiding from the authorities, even having heard the good news that Jesus is risen? What did it take for the disciples to overcome that fear? What does it take for us to overcome our fears in declaring and showing Jesus' saving love?
- Was Thomas really any more of a "doubter" than anyone else in the events of Easter? No one in John's telling of Easter believed without seeing Jesus, and many of them didn't even recognize him at first. How can we help those who need to "see" and "recognize" Jesus have faith in him?

Action Step

- Lift high your cross and declare – through your acts of grace and compassion – the truth and love of Jesus, so that others may believe based on what they see of Jesus in you!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!