

What Do You Require in Order To Believe? — Easter #2
Church by the Sea ~ Madeira Beach, FL
April 7, 2024 Dr. Jeffry Iskra

1. Thomas reacts from his HURT

John 20:24-25 One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called Didymus), was not with the others when Jesus came.

²⁵ They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

2. Jesus cares enough to CONFRONT Thomas

Vs. 26-27 A week later his disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even 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 and look at my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing!"

3. Thomas' conviction & CONFESSION

Vs. 28 Thomas responded to him, "My Lord and my God!"

4. There are GREATER blessings for us who believe

Vs. 29 Jesus said, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

1 Peter 1:8-9 You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. ⁹ The reward for trusting him will be the salvation of your souls.