

## A WORD FOR DOUBTERS

John 20:24-31; 1 John 1:1-3

CURT DE GRAAFF

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at [www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons](http://www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons).

### CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Rate the following statements on a scale of 1-5 (1 = “Absolutely False” and 5 = “Absolutely True”)
  - *Mount Everest is the tallest peak on the earth.*
  - *Humans have walked on the moon.*
  - *Michael Jordan was the best basketball player ever.*
  - *Coke is better than Pepsi.*
  - *Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead.*
- Would you consider yourself a “doubter”? Why or why not?

### APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Curt unpacked one of Jesus’s appearances after His physical resurrection - coming face-to-face with “Doubting” Thomas.**

### Four Different Types Of Doubters Today:

#### 1. **Temperamental Doubters**

- These are men and women for whom faith is not their first response. They ask, “But, what if...?”
- When are you most like a Temperamental Doubter?

#### 2. **Rebellious Doubters**

- These doubters don’t actually want to believe. They don’t like the idea of anyone telling them what to do or how to live, so they push back against authority and chase their own desires.
- When are you most like a Rebellious Doubter?

#### 3. **Wounded Doubters**

- These people have suffered great pain and they blame God, asking, “Why would a loving God allow me to go through something so difficult?”
- When are you most like a Wounded Doubter?

#### 4. **Intellectual Doubters**

- These men and women are sometimes “Rebellious Doubters” cloaked in intellect. They blindly choose to believe lies because they don’t want to be proven wrong.
- When are you most like an Intellectual Doubter?

### Honest Talk About Your Doubts:

- What kind of questions (or doubts) have you, or those close to you, battled in your journey of faith? Be specific. Have you settled those, or are you still in process?
- What kind of things can we learn from the way Jesus dealt with Thomas’s doubts as recorded in our text?
- How can we make it safe for people in this group (or unsaved people, or even our own children) to honestly share their confusion?
- Pastor Curt noted: *Sixty percent of the psalms are songs of lament (honest cries to God).* How does this change the way you see the Bible, God or even your own life circumstances?
- What will it take for you to put your faith where God put your sin - on the cross?

### PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Praise God together as a group for God’s comfort during your painful experiences, His faithfulness during your doubt and His forgiveness despite your sin.

