The Call To Faith Text: John 20: 24-31 April 30, 2022

Big Idea: Jesus is the Son of God and Messiah; you must believe in Him to have life.

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text says about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is the application?

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take too see this happen?

Question #5

- a) Rd Hebrews 11:1 & 2 Corinthians 5:7: What
- b) **Rd Hebrews 11:6:** Why is our faith so important to God?
- c) Rd Luke 11:28 & John 20:29b: What does Jesus promise to those who believe His Word by faith?
- d) Write a practical definition of faith based on these texts & share it with your group.

Jesus is the Son of God and Messiah...

Point 1: His <u>CALL</u> to <u>FAITH</u>: "Do not disbelieve, but believe." (vv. 24-27)

Question: Jesus knows your doubts and has overcome them. Will you trust Him?

Question #6

- a) Rd. vv. 24-25: Why did Thomas reject the word of the disciples (& ultimately Jesus' Word)?
- b) What was Thomas forfeiting by choosing unbelief over faith?
- c) What is the fruit of unbelief in your life when you refuse to trust God's Word?
- d) What area(s) are you struggling in your faith right now? Why these ones?
- e) What are some ways Jesus has given us to help increase our faith in Him?

Question #7

- a) Rd v. 27: How is this a picture of Jesus' sovereignty over Thomas' doubts?
- b) How should this truth encourage you when you struggle with unbelief?

Point 2: The DECLARATION of FAITH: "My Lord and my God!" (vv. 28-29)

Question: True faith in Jesus declares He is your Lord and God. Is this your confession?

Question #8

- a) **Rd v. 28:** How does Thomas' confession reveal a true faith in Jesus Christ? (2 parts)
- b) What area(s) are you struggling to submit to Jesus' Lordship over your life? Why?
- c) What fruit(s) are evident when you refuse to submit those to Him?
- d) What is your motivation for hanging on to those? What does this reveal about your faith in God?
- e) What promises has God given you through the gospel to strengthen your faith & help you submit those areas to Him?
- f) Take time to pray as a group for one another in these areas.

Point 3: His <u>PROMISE</u> through <u>FAITH</u>: Life in His Name (vv. 30-31)

Question: The evidence for the truth of Jesus is clear. Will you believe in Him?

Question #9

- a) **Rd v. 30:** What was the purpose of the 7 signs that Jesus did?
- b) Which sign is most impactful for you? Why?
- c) How can remembering this work of Jesus, strengthen your faith when you're tempted with unbelief?

Question #10

- a) **Rd vv. 30-31:** For what purpose did John write this gospel?
- b) Take time as a group to testify as to how going through the gospel of John has increased your faith & helped you live in the new life Jesus gives us.
- c) Take time to pray as a group and thank God for this work in you!

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer...

- a) REVERENCE before God: Jesus, I trust you because you are .
- b) HUMILITY before God: Confess @ repent of your unbelief in Jesus and His Word.
- c) THANKSGIVING to God: Thank Jesus for His faithfulness to you.
- d) <u>SUPPLICATION</u> to God: i) An increasing faith in the Word of God ii) Increasing life in His Name iii) For Jesus to save the lost and sanctify His Church through the gospel.

Memory Verse:

"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book, but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."-John 20:30-31