

Will You Believe? > John 20:19-31

20:19-23 *They believe.* The disciples are afraid that what happened to Jesus will happen to them to, so they hide behind locked doors – but no door can stop Jesus! He appears in the flesh, allowing them to see that he has risen from the grave. He then proceeds to commission them for the mission of proclaiming the gospel (recorded in the book of Acts).

20:24-29 *He believed.* Thomas was absent during Christ's first appearance, and so he is skeptical that Jesus has actually risen. By the Lord's grace, when he appears the second time, Thomas is present and is allowed to see that Christ has truly risen from the grave. Then, Jesus pronounces a blessing on all who won't have the benefit of seeing as the first disciples did.

20:30-31 *Will you believe?* Ultimately, John's gospel is about belief: belief that Jesus is the promised Messiah and belief that, by trusting in him, a person can have eternal life.

Background: The events of Christ's trial and crucifixion are past and it is now the time for Christ's prophesied resurrection to be fulfilled, which is recorded in verses 1-10.

The Point: Believe that Jesus is the Messiah and trust in him for eternal life.

Head: Know that Christ's resurrection has been verified by eyewitnesses who knew him well.

Heart: Believe that faith in Jesus leads to peace and life.

Hands: Respond to Jesus in grateful, devoted, worship.

Here is how I will apply these truths: _____
