



Small Group Discussion Guide

November 26, 2017

Sermon Title:

"Believing is Seeing"

Sermon Text: John 20:24-29, 1 Peter 1:3-12

Scripture Reading: Psalm 124

Leader: *Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting, and then have someone offer a brief prayer for God to meet with your group.*

Getting Started: By nature are you a skeptical person, or do you believe things fairly easily?
Can you cite an example where your instincts were beneficial to you?

Discussion:

1. Do you remember when Jesus first appeared to His disciples as they were gathered together? What day was it? What time of day was it? Who is mentioned as being conspicuously absent?
2. When was the next occasion for Jesus' appearance to the disciples? How long a time had passed between the appearances? Who was present then and what statement did he make pertaining to his faith (or lack thereof)? What invitation was offered to him by Jesus? What "nickname" do we give him as a result of his behavior?
3. Peter would have been in that room on both occasions. As a result of that experience, what message did he write his readers concerning the reality of Jesus' resurrection and life eternal He promises... specifically regarding "seeing"? **(Reference: 1 Peter 1:3, 8)**
Do you think there was a reference to Thomas's doubting because he had not seen Jesus that first Easter evening?
4. In his epistle, Peter accentuates the importance of faith. Notice the many aspects regarding faith that Peter mentions. Discuss each:
 - *Faith shields us. (Vs.5)
 - *Faith is highly valued (Vs. 7)
 - *Faith sees the invisible (Vs. 8)
 - *Faith results in our salvation (Vs. 9)
5. In the Movie, "Miracle on 34th Street"; Susan kept repeating a saying over and over. Do you remember what it was? How important is repetition and our declaring our faith by stating it aloud.

Closing: Close by sharing prayer requests.

Pray for each another and for the needs that were shared.

GO SHARE JESUS!