

Bible Verse: John 20:29 (NIV) “Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

In last week’s story, three women find Jesus’ tomb empty on Easter morning. An angel announces that Jesus is alive and that the women should tell the other disciples to watch for Jesus.

Today’s story begins that evening. Almost all of the disciples are together. They lock the doors to their room because they are afraid that the enemies of Jesus might come looking for them too. Suddenly, Jesus is there! Just standing there with them. They can even see the wounds on his hands and side. Jesus says “Peace be with you.” Of course, they are overjoyed to see Jesus.

It happens that the disciple Thomas is not in the room with the others when Jesus appears to them. When they tell Thomas “We have seen the Lord”, Thomas is not ready to believe them. Thomas says “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples are in the house again, with the doors locked. This time, Thomas is with them. Again, Jesus appears and stands among them and says, “Peace be with you!” Then Jesus says to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas says to him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus tells him, “Now you believe in me because you have seen me. Many people who have not seen me will still believe. They are blessed.

Later, Thomas himself helps bring the blessing of Jesus to new Christians in places far away, places where believers have never actually seen Jesus. Thomas himself brings the good news of Jesus all the way to India.

Right now on earth, more than two billion Christians, like us, who have never actually touched Jesus, still believe in His resurrection and are blessed with His peace.

We feel His love and presence every day.

Wonder Question: Can you think of a time when you “doubted” something was true, and it was true? Write down and describe that incident.

