



Faith That Crosses Doubt Into Resurrection Victory

A Five-Day Family Devotional Journey through:

John 20:26–31

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PASTORAL FOREWORD

Beloved Family,

This week, we gather not merely as individuals, but as households of faith—families seeking to walk together from uncertainty into assurance, from fear into faith, and from doubt into resurrection victory.

In John 20:26–31, we are invited into a sacred moment where the risen Christ steps into a closed room and speaks peace into troubled hearts. Among the disciples stands Thomas, a man often remembered for his doubt, yet ultimately transformed by divine encounter. His journey is not foreign to us—it is familiar. For every believer, at some point, must wrestle with what God has said versus what life appears to show.

This devotional journey is designed to guide your family through that same movement:

- From locked doors to open hearts
- From hesitation to holy declaration
- From seeing to believing
- From believing to living

As you walk through these five days together, I encourage you to:

- Read the Scriptures aloud as a family
- Discuss openly and honestly
- Pray intentionally and expectantly
- Act faithfully and consistently

Remember—faith is not the absence of questions; it is the decision to trust God despite them.

And as your household leans into the truth of God’s Word, may you discover this unshakable reality:

Victory is not found in avoiding the Cross—but in crossing through it.

May Grace and peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ be multiplied to your home.

Reverend Chester L. McGensy

DAY ONE: JESUS ENTERS CLOSED SPACES

Scripture:

John 20:26 (NKJV)

“...Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, ‘Peace to you!’”

Devotional Reflection:

The disciples were gathered behind closed doors—not for comfort, but for protection. Fear had caused them to isolate. Yet, even in their fear, Jesus came and stood among them.

This reveals a powerful truth: no barrier can keep Christ from His people. Not locked doors. Not troubled hearts. Not uncertain circumstances.

Jesus did not wait for them to open the door—He entered anyway. And His first word was not correction, but peace.

This peace is rooted in the Cross. Because of His sacrifice, fear no longer has the final word. Christ steps into our closed places—our anxieties, our struggles, our private battles—and declares peace over them.

Family Reflection Questions:

1. What “closed doors” exist in our family right now (fear, stress, uncertainty)?
2. How does it change our perspective to know Jesus can enter any situation?
3. What would it look like for our family to receive Christ’s peace today?

Family Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we invite You into every area of our lives—especially the places we have tried to keep closed. Speak Your peace into our fears, our worries, and our uncertainties. Help us trust that You are present, even when we feel afraid. Amen.

Family Action Step:

As a family, identify one area of concern and intentionally surrender it to God in prayer today.

DAY TWO: JESUS MEETS US IN OUR DOUBT

Scripture:

John 20:27 (NKJV)

“...Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

Devotional Reflection:

Thomas had doubts—but Jesus did not reject him. Instead, Jesus met him at the very point of his struggle.

God is not intimidated by honest questions. He does not abandon us when we wrestle—He draws near.

But notice—Jesus does not affirm doubt; He calls Thomas beyond it. “Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

Faith is a choice. It is the decision to trust God’s truth over our uncertainty.

Family Reflection Questions:

1. What questions or doubts do we sometimes struggle with as individuals or as a family?
2. How does it comfort us to know Jesus meets us in our doubts?
3. What steps can we take to move from doubt toward faith?

Family Prayer:

Father, we confess that there are times when we struggle to believe. Thank You for meeting us in our weakness. Strengthen our faith and help us trust Your Word above our feelings. Amen.

Family Action Step:

Write down one doubt or concern and find a Scripture that speaks truth to it. Share it as a family.

DAY THREE: DECLARING JESUS AS LORD AND GOD

Scripture:

John 20:28 (NKJV)

“And Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’”

Devotional Reflection:

Thomas moves from doubt to declaration. His confession is personal and powerful.

“My Lord... my God.”

This is more than belief—it is surrender. Faith reaches its fullness when it becomes personal.

Jesus is not just *a* Lord—He must become your Lord.

He is not just *the* Savior—He must become your Savior.

Family Reflection Questions:

1. What does it mean to call Jesus “my Lord and my God”?
2. How can each member of our family grow in personal faith?
3. In what ways can we show that Jesus is Lord in our daily lives?

Family Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we declare You as our Lord and our God. Rule in our hearts, guide our decisions, and shape our lives. Help us live in full surrender to You. Amen.

Family Action Step:

Each family member verbally declares one area of life they are surrendering to Christ.

DAY FOUR: BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO BELIEVE WITHOUT SEEING

Scripture:

John 20:29 (NKJV)

“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Devotional Reflection:

Jesus speaks directly to us in this verse. We have not seen Him physically, yet we believe.

This is the essence of faith—trusting God’s Word without needing visible proof.

Faith is not blind—it is grounded in truth. It rests on the testimony of Scripture and the witness of the Spirit.

And Jesus declares that such faith is blessed.

Family Reflection Questions:

- 1. Why is it sometimes hard to believe without seeing?**
- 2. How does God strengthen our faith through His Word?**
- 3. What blessings have we experienced through trusting God?**

Family Prayer:

Lord, help us to trust You even when we cannot see what You are doing. Strengthen our faith and remind us of Your promises. Amen.

Family Action Step:

Memorize John 20:29 together as a family.

DAY FIVE: BELIEVING LEADS TO LIFE

Scripture:

John 20:31 (NKJV)

“...that believing you may have life in His name.”

Devotional Reflection:

John reveals the purpose of the Gospel: belief that leads to life.

Not just existence—but abundant, eternal, Resurrection Life.

This life flows from:

- The death of Christ
- The burial of Christ
- The bodily resurrection of Christ

When we believe, we receive:

- Forgiveness
- New identity
- Eternal hope

This is Victory—not temporary, but eternal.

Family Reflection Questions:

1. What kind of “life” does Jesus promise to those who believe?
2. How does faith in Christ change the way we live daily?
3. How can our family reflect this new life to others?

Family Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of life through Jesus Christ. Help us to live in that life every day, reflecting Your love and truth to others. Amen.

Family Action Step:

As a family, perform one act of kindness that reflects the life of Christ (encouragement, service, or giving).

CLOSING BENEDICTION

May the Lord who entered closed rooms enter your home with peace.

May the Christ who met doubt strengthen your faith.

May the Savior who received Thomas' confession receive yours anew.

May your family walk not by sight—but by faith.

May your hearts be anchored in truth—and alive in His name.

**And May You, Together, Cross Through The Cross...
Into The Fullness of Resurrection Victory.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.