# The risen Jesus 4 John 20:24-31

## Life for the sceptical

### When you miss out

# God’s timing is not our timing

## A whole week goes by

### Thomas the realist

### Thomas the person who likes plain speaking

## God let Thomas think wrongly for a whole week

### In doing that Thomas becomes the champion of everyone who struggles to believe

# God hears everything

## Thomas spoke the words to the other disciples but Jesus answers him when He appears

### Jesus was doing what we know God does

# Jesus speaks peace

## ‘Peace’ a blessing

### Peace is not just the absence of strife, but a positive presence that adds to our sense of wholeness and breeds contentment

## Peace is to all

# Jesus answers the most important questions

## Thomas needed more

### The more you need, the more will be expected of you as a response

## Others need less

### And God will make them happy and content and whole as they accept Jesus

# God’s call is for you to have life

## John has written all these things, and left more out, so that the reader might believe and have life

### What else do you need to come to faith?

# Jesus is risen

## A truth worth believing

## A truth worth living for

## A truth worth dying for

## A truth worth exploring

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Stories of missing out

## Recall a time when you missed something big because you were not there

### What feelings did you have?

### How was it resolved, if ever?

### Share if appropriate

## Does God always treat us ‘the same’?

### In what ways does He treat us all in the same way?

#### Why are our experiences different in this?

### In what ways does He treat each of us differently?

#### Does this mean He has favourites?

##### Explain your answer

# The timing

## Why do you think Jesus left the situation for a whole week?

### Have you had similar ‘timing’ issues with God – where He hasn’t acted when you thought He should have?

#### What were the consequences of the delay?

#### What did you learn about God?

# The confession

## “My Lord and my God”

### This was not refuted by Jesus or John and fits in with the ‘prologue’ (1:1-18) of John’s beliefs about Jesus but some have seen this as ‘My lord! My God!’ – an exclamation of astonishment

#### How do you see it?

# There’s believing and there’s ‘life’

## Is believing the same as having life?

### Explain your answer

## What do you understand by ‘having life’ in this context?

### Why do you think John adds ‘in His name’?

#### Does this make a difference?

# Re-read John 1:1-18

### Looking over the last pieces of ‘evidence’ (Jn 20 & 21) how well are John’s beliefs and assertions justified?