

HOW TO HAVE FAITH

John 20:24-31

Three of the most discouraging and confusing words ever heard: “JUST HAVE FAITH.”

I. REMOVE YOUR DOUBTS

John 20:24, 25

There were two specific causes for Thomas' Doubt

1. Requirements for beliefs

“Unless... I won't believe.”

Thomas lived with doubts because he put unrealistic requirements upon faith

I have to see

I have to touch

Faith is INFORMED TRUST.

2. Withdrawal from FELLOWSHIP

II. REDIRECT YOUR WILL

John 20:26, 27

Two statements in this teach us a powerful truth about faith.

“I will not believe”

“Stop doubting and believe”

Question: “Is faith a head decision or heart decision?”

Answer: NEITHER

The truth is: Faith is a matter of the WILL.

We're growing in one of two directions: FAITH or DOUBT.

III. RENEW YOUR CONFESSION

John 20:28

Romans 10:9-10, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Thomas' experience teaches us three things about confessions of faith

Confessions are VITAL

Confessions are PERSONAL

Confessions are VISIBLE

IV. RECEIVE HIS BLESSING

John 20:29-31

The result of faith is BLESSEDNESS!

The result of faith is LIFE!

Homework

Want to have FAITH? Here's how!

Remove your DOUBTS:

Write down your doubts on a sheet of paper. At the bottom of the sheet write this prayer, "Jesus, I ask you to give me your answers to these doubts."

Redirect you WILL:

DECIDE to have faith in an area where you've been waiting for your emotions or your logic to decide for you.

Renew your CONFESSION:

Start each day this week with a confession of your faith. You can find many confessions of faith throughout the book of Psalms

Receive His BLESSING:

Take 20 minutes sometime this week to sit down and make a list of what you have because of your faith in Christ.