

John 20:24-29

1. God removed the reason for doubt when he revealed the reason for hope.
1 Corinthians 15:3-6

2. God revealed His love for us when Christ removed our sin through his death, burial, and resurrection.
1 Corinthians 15:14, Ephesians 1:22-23, 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

3. Our doubts will not derail our hope when it is firmly anchored to Jesus.
Hebrews 6:19a

**All scriptures are from the New Living Translation.*

Small Group Outline & Discussion Questions

Celebrate and Care:

Have each person share a high and low from this past week.

Big Idea:

Hope is built on what a person believes, not on based on what a person sees. Doubt will not derail hope that is firmly anchored to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

Open Up:

Have you ever believed in something that others may not have believed in – like the Loch Ness Monster?

Discuss:

Choose one or two questions for your group to discuss as time allows.

- ▶ Did Mary Magdalene not recognize Jesus because he didn't look the same or because she wasn't expecting him?
- ▶ How did Jesus respond to Thomas's doubt? How does he respond to our doubts?
- ▶ Read John 20:19-30. What did Jesus say three times? What significance does that have for us today?
- ▶ How does it make you feel to hear that Jesus said, "Blessed are those who believe without seeing me"?
- ▶ We started "The Reason for Our Hope" series with a question about the level of your hope on a scale of 1-10. Did that number rise? If so, how? If not, how can you move forward?

Engage:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with these questions then share your thoughts.

Pastor Matt talked about how hope is an anchor for our souls. Ask God for a word picture for your hope to hold you in your current situation.

In John 20:21 Jesus said, "Just as the Father has sent me, I am now sending you." Take a moment and ask God if there is anyone specific he is sending you to.

Close together in prayer.

Fill in the blank key: doubt, hope; revealed, removed; anchored