

# king's chapel

## *Community Group Discussion Guide*

Week of May 7, 2017

**This Week's Focus:** Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God who rose from the dead who saves all sinners who believe in him.

**This Week's Text:** John 20:24-31

"Faith sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, touches the intangible, and does the impossible."

**Charles H. Spurgeon**

"To believe with one's heart means to commit oneself at the deepest level to the truth as revealed and experienced. Confession is giving expression in words to that conviction." **William D. Mounce**

### **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- **Why** has the Apostle Thomas come to be known as "Doubting Thomas"? Do you think this reputation is fair? What is the difference between doubt and Thomas' refusal to believe? Can you identify with Thomas' doubts and disbelief in Jesus' resurrection from the grave?
- Like the disciples, do you persist (with gentleness and respect) in testifying to the truth of the gospel to those who doubt or refuse to believe? Do you persistently preach the gospel to yourself, especially in moments of doubt?
- What was Thomas' response to seeing the glorified Jesus? Discuss how Thomas' statement is simultaneously a theological proposition and a personal testimony. Do you share Thomas' (and the other disciples') faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9)?
- Although we have not seen the risen Lord, what evidence do we have today to the reality of the risen Christ? Why can we consider the disciples' accounts of the risen Jesus reliable and trustworthy?
- Why does the historical reality of Jesus' resurrection matter? Why was it necessary for Jesus to die on the cross? Discuss what Jesus' death and resurrection accomplished for you.
- Read John 20:30-31. How do these verses along with John's prologue (1:1-18) serve as bookends to John's account? Have you grasped the purpose of John's Gospel? What does it mean that Jesus is the Christ ("anointed one")? How is Jesus a true and better Prophet, Priest, and King than those of the Old Testament?