



REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message. Sign up to receive the daily devotional email at www.bit.ly/devotional-rumc.

April 6-12, 2026

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon Title: "What's So Great About Doubting?" by Rev. Dr. Peter Moon

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals, make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

Questions for small groups and individual reflection:

1. Do you ever find cynicism to approach your perspective and speech? What do you do about it? Is it ok? Hint: Pastor and author Max Lucado called cynicism "the tool of the lazy thinker..."
2. Thomas could be called the patron saint of doubters. It would be more accurate to call him the patron saint of people who have not seen. His confession reminds us that we are blessed when we believe, having not seen what he had seen. Describe that blessing.
3. Take some time to review John 20:30-31. Note the gift. John tells us the reason for writing the book. Do you believe that Jesus is who John is asking us to believe?

Monday, April 6: Read John 20:19-31

We celebrate the wonder of Easter, boldly proclaiming that Jesus is risen; that he is alive. Then many of us endure the post-Easter encounter with our own doubting Thomas. As we go back to work or school, our cynicism creeps in. Doubts creep in. Despair creeps in. While we should avoid any self-condemnation for having doubts, this week's scriptures and Pete's sermon this Sunday will encourage us to explore the gifts of belief. While Thomas is famous for his doubt, we can also celebrate the sincerity and power of his confession. When he says, "My Lord and my God," he leaps ahead of others in his understanding and faith in who Jesus really is. Could his initial doubt have pushed him into deeper belief? Could ours?

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss with your family, friends, or small group if you believe that it's okay to doubt. Why or why not? Is the problem of doubting the non-ending nature of some of our doubts? Can our doubts result in cynicism?*

Tuesday, April 7: Read 1 Peter 1:3-9

It's not just the religious community that extols the value of belief. Doctors, psychologists, leadership experts, and secular leaders often witness to the power of hope and belief. The early Christian community faced challenges most of us could never imagine (ridicule, imperial rule, martyrdom), yet accomplished more than could possibly have been imagined by even the most optimistic among them. We read today's words in our own times of turmoil, where cynicism threatens our belief and faith in anything or anyone, and the loudest voices are often the ones proclaiming doom and gloom rather than joy and salvation. Which voices will we believe?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Find one way to hear more voices that lift you up and support your beliefs in love, joy, and Christ's gospel message, and one way to turn down the other voices.*

Wednesday, April 8: Read Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Sometimes we doubt because we don't see the evidence that's right in front of us. We've tuned our frequency dials to recognize danger, deceit, decline, and despair and therefore totally miss God's signals of hope, love, protection, and peace. In today's reading, Peter teaches the crowd to recognize the evidence that has been there all along about Jesus. Can we do the same? Can we recognize the reality of Jesus present in the actions, words, and countenance of faithful believers who have blessed our lives and our community? We can see the evidence in the quality of our own lives when we have demonstrated faith versus when we have not.

- **Discipleship and Relationship Opportunity:** *For 24 hours, actively look for the evidence of God's message of love, hope, peace, and salvation through Christ that may be right in front of you. Share your findings with someone.*

Thursday, April 9: Read Mark 11:22-24

Between the years 1960-1982, a man living in a remote mountain village in India single-handedly carved a path through a 300-foot mountain using only his two hands and rudimentary tools. The entire village thought he was a fool who was crazed by his wife's untimely death after trying to walk around the mountain to reach the nearest doctor – a 40-mile trek. After 22 years, Dashrath Manji, the "mountain man" of India, broke through the mountain, thereby reducing the distance to the nearest town...and medical center...to less than a mile. This man's faith moved a mountain. What might we accomplish if we had such faith? Is doubt serving us better? If not, why not?

- **Study Opportunity:** *Research Dashrath Manji and other people whose acts of faith accomplished the "impossible."*

Friday, April 10: Read Psalm 16

We all believe in something, whether we are aware of it or not, whether we are intentional about it or not. Today's psalmist proclaims, "Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows." Do you believe this? Have you seen this? Let's all take time today to examine what we believe. Is it leading to joy?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Do an audit of your beliefs and how they are serving you.*

Saturday, April 11: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: 1 Peter 1:8

"Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy." (NRSVue)

Sunday, April 12: Let us prepare our hearts and minds with our Prayer of Confession: *Gracious Lord, today we continue to celebrate your resurrection. You are risen indeed! Even as we proclaim the words, like Thomas, we doubt. We require proof to relieve our lack of faith. We choose cynicism over disappointed hope. Forgive us, O Lord. Lead us into that deeper place of confident faith that leans on and hopes in you. Strike within us once again the spark of new possibilities that yet shines from your empty tomb. This we ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.*