



Better Life

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014

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Introduction:

- Spiritual life in Jesus
- Choosing what's Better

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

John 20:19-20

One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side." Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed. Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."

John 20:24-29

Finding the "Better Life"

1. Believe _____

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

John 14:6

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

Romans 10:9-10

2. Choosing _____

You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

Matthew 7:13-14

Next Steps:

- ☐ I will examine my faith this week, by evaluating my choices. I want to choose "better"
- ☐ I ask God to help me to have wisdom so I can make better choices in my life
- ☐ I commit to growing in my faith by combining my faith with "better" choices
- ☐ I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and I commit to live my life serving & following him