

St John Church of Christ

April 25, 2021



Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. Bible classes begin at 10:00. For kids, the Pete & Penelope, our children's puppet program is followed by songs and classes.

Our Bible is the most amazing book of all time. Although it was written by dozens of people over a period of 1,600 years, we believe the Author is God. Adults, join us in the auditorium, for a new, six-week series, which explains "How We Got the Bible." This week, John presents "Can I Trust My Bible?"

Worship begins promptly at 11:00

If you are unable to be with us in person, our worship is shared through our website:

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

Simply select "Sermons" from the menu bar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](http://St.John Church of Christ)



For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time (1 Corinthians 15:3-6).

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted (Matthew 28:16 - 17).

In our rush to listen to the last words of Jesus, we skip over verse

17 and pass over their "doubt." Did the apostles doubt it was Jesus? That's possible because Mary didn't recognize Jesus in the garden (at first) and the two disciples on the Emmaus Road didn't recognize Jesus until he broke the bread. Or, perhaps, Jesus was far away and clothed in heavenly splendor and they didn't recognize him - they doubted - until he came closer. However, I feel it wasn't the apostles who doubted, but rather some of those in the crowd. This was their first time to see the resurrected Jesus and they were rightfully skeptical.

The Greek word for doubt (*distazo*) appears ten times in the New Testament. Normally it is a bad word ("But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind" James 1:6. Also Romans 14:23). However, there is an honest doubt that shouldn't be

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considered sin. Jude told us “And have mercy on those who doubt” (Jude 22). “Mercy” is a good word here. Mercy is sympathy that is ready to lend a hand. We feel for those people who doubt, and we are moved to help them believe.

On a scale of 1 to 10, with one being gullible, and 10 being a total skeptic, which are you? Nathanael couldn’t believe the Messiah was from Nazareth (John 1:46), and Thomas had trouble believing Jesus was resurrected, yet they both were apostles. What can we learn from this?

There is a sinful doubt that refuses to believe in spite of the evidence. Confident Christianity doesn’t necessarily have all the answers, but it has enough to launch out on faith because of the evidence.

In Jerusalem, visitors are shown two tombs of Jesus: one in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the other at Gordon’s Calvary. Does it destroy my faith because we don’t know exactly where Jesus was buried? No! Because both tombs are both empty!



Traditional Tomb of Christ



Key Dates

- **Vacation Bible School**
 - April 28 Work Night
 - May 5 Work Night
 - May 12 Work Night
 - May 19 Work Night
 - May 26 Work Night
 - Saturday June 12 One-Day Vacation Bible School!
- **Congregational Birthday Party!**
 - May 23, Potluck and Party after morning services
- **CORE Dinner**
 - May 24, Monday Night

News & Prayer Requests

We have had a number of knee surgeries among our members this month. Marilyn, Lisa, and Orvalee continue to recover from their surgeries.

Please pray for Gentry Rodriguez. The effects of recent major surgery have kept him out of work.

Joy has asked us to pray for her friend, Becky, who is awaiting the results of a recent biopsy.

Gayle is continuing to have bleeding problems. Please pray that the doctors can find the source of her blood loss.

Pray for Paul as he battles cancer in Washington state, and let’s continue to pray for Curtis in Pratt as he wrestles with cancer.

Please begin praying about VBS and Silver Maple Bible Camp programs coming this coming summer.

Announcing!

THE LORD’S ARMY



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 12TH

**Join us to help prepare for VBS every
Wednesday night at the building at 7:00!**