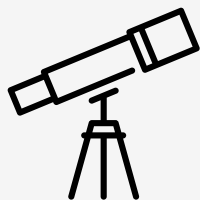


# *THE TRAIL OF REASON*

*IMC VBS 2020 - SENIORS 9&10*

# *THE BIBLE STUDY FRAMEWORK*



## Observation

- To look at things from a distance
- What is happening?



## Interpretation

- Look at the cultural, economic, socio-political context
- Why is this happening?



## Application

- How does this biblical truth apply to my/ our current situation
- How to apply it?



# THE STORY OF THOMAS

John 11:8-10, 14:1-6, 20:24-29

- *Thomas was one of the 12 disciples of Jesus Christ*
- *We find him to be one with doubts and thoughts always*
- *In John 20, he vocally expresses his doubts over Jesus' resurrection and appearance to the disciples*
- *He continues to say that he would believe only if he touches the wounds of Jesus in real life*
- *Jesus appears to Thomas and grants his request*
- *Thomas falls down at Jesus' feet and believes*





*Looking at the text plainly*

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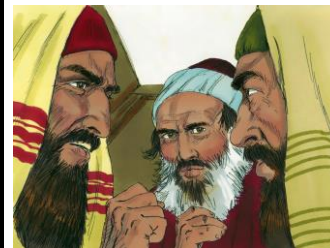
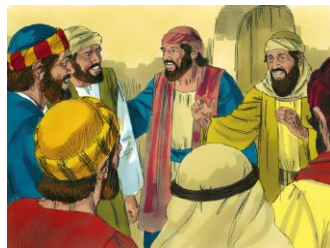
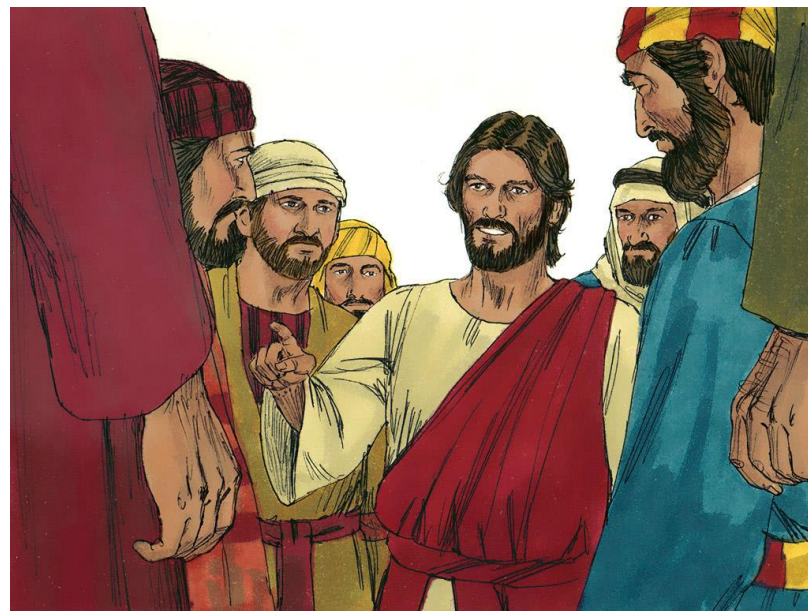
# *OBSERVATION*



# Observation

## What do the disciples do in John 11?

- Jesus wants to go to Judea so that he could raise Lazarus
- The disciples questioned him why he wanted to go to a place where the Pharisees tried to kill him
- Jesus reasons with them and explains that he has to go to raise Lazarus from the dead
- Thomas is not seen specifically here

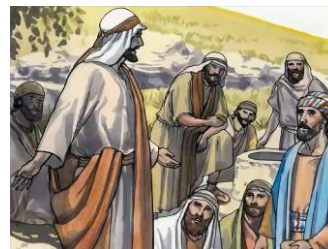




# Observation

## What does Thomas do in John 14?

- Jesus says that “He will prepare a room for each of them in his father’s place”
- Thomas specifically questions Jesus that they do not know where He was going
- Jesus answers saying that “He is the way, the truth and the life”

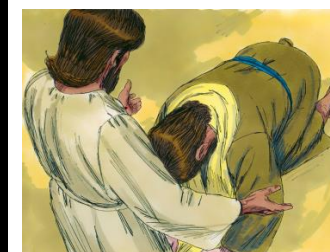
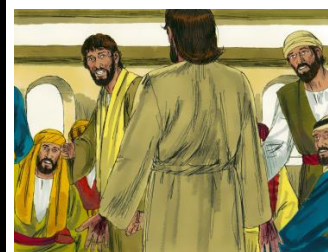
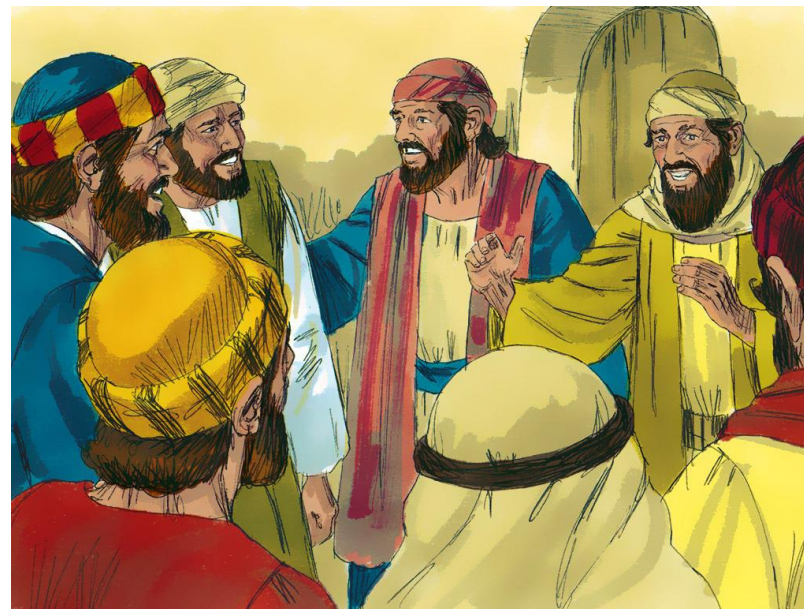




# Observation

## What does Thomas do in John 20?

- The disciples tell Thomas that they have seen the resurrected Jesus Christ
- Thomas says he will not believe until he touches Jesus
- He falls at Jesus' feet exclaiming, "My Lord and My God" when Jesus appeared to Thomas



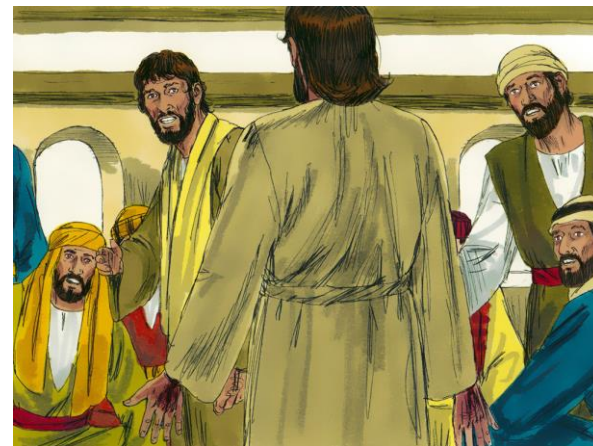
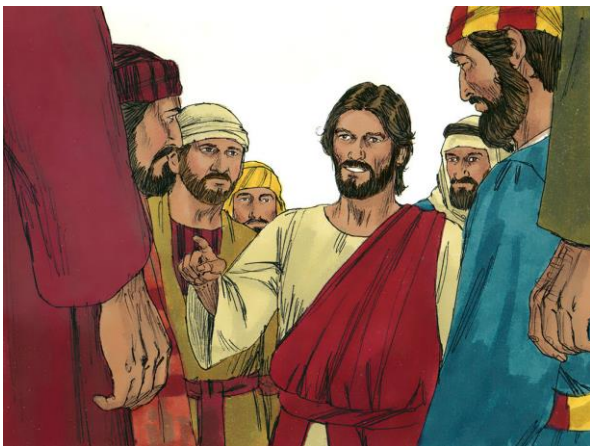


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## What is the Character of God?

- God provides the disciples the answers that they look for
- God does not shy away Thomas who keeps questioning and asks for proof of Jesus' resurrection



# *Observation*





# *INTERPRETATION*

*Understanding the text  
based on the context*



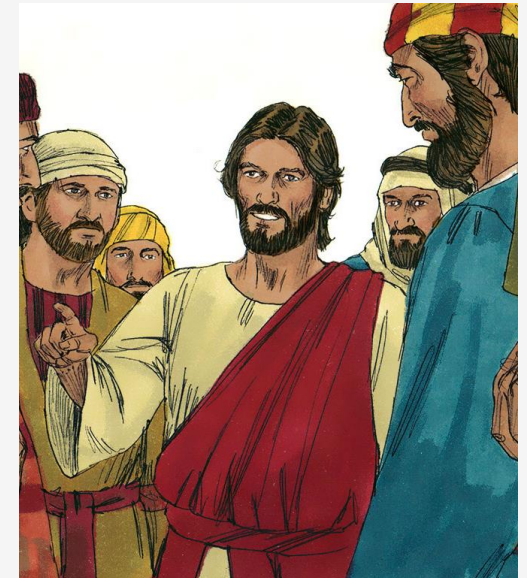
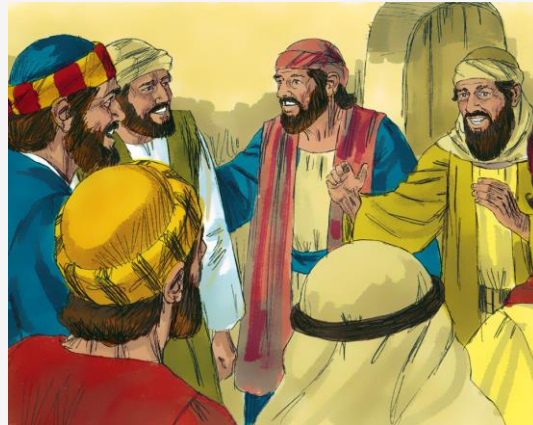
# Interpretation

**Why did the disciples ask whether Jesus really wanted to go to Judea?**

Because the pharisees already tried to kill Jesus once before in the same place

**Why did Thomas ask about not knowing the way?**

Because Jesus was talking about going back to his Father's house and Thomas did not understand what Jesus meant





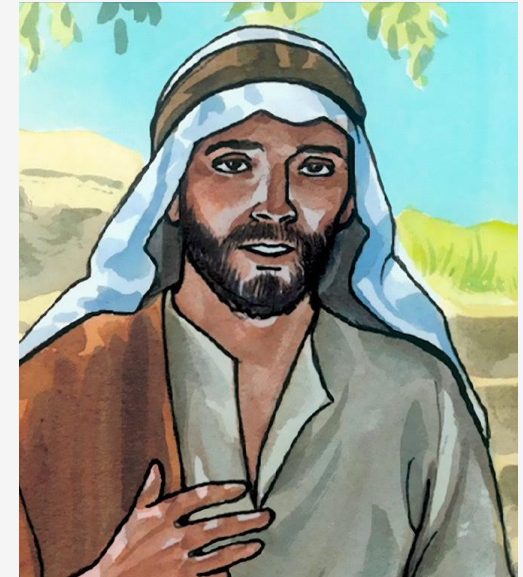
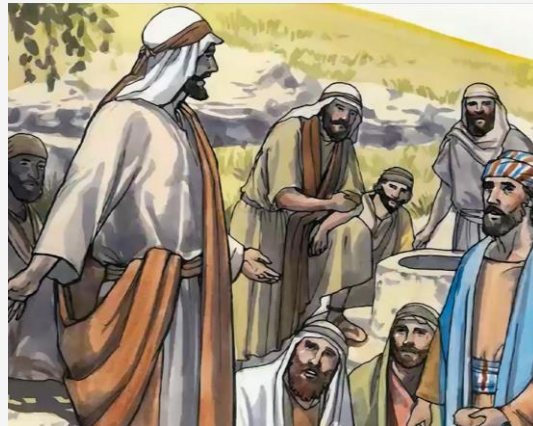
# Interpretation

## Why did Jesus say "I am the way, the truth and the life"?

Because other than Jesus there is no way that people can come close to God; It's because of His sacrifice on the cross that we have access to God

## Why did Thomas want to see proof before he believed?

Thomas probably considered Jesus as a good teacher/ rabbi and never understood that Jesus was God himself; so his rational mind never comprehended the resurrection







# Interpretation

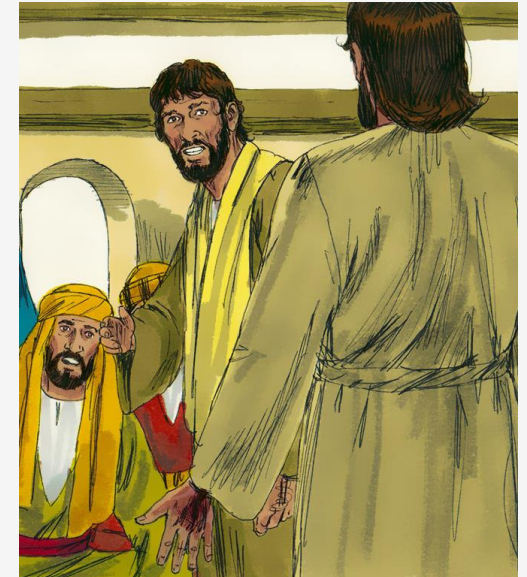
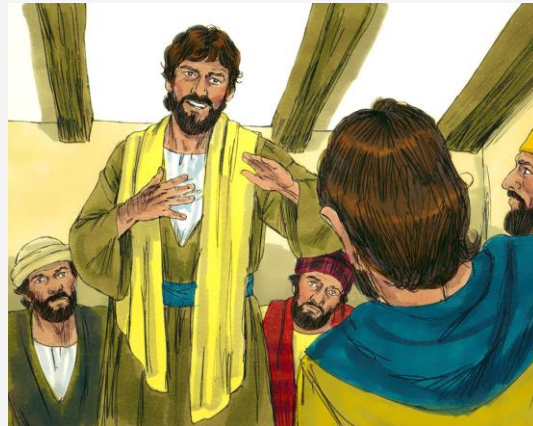
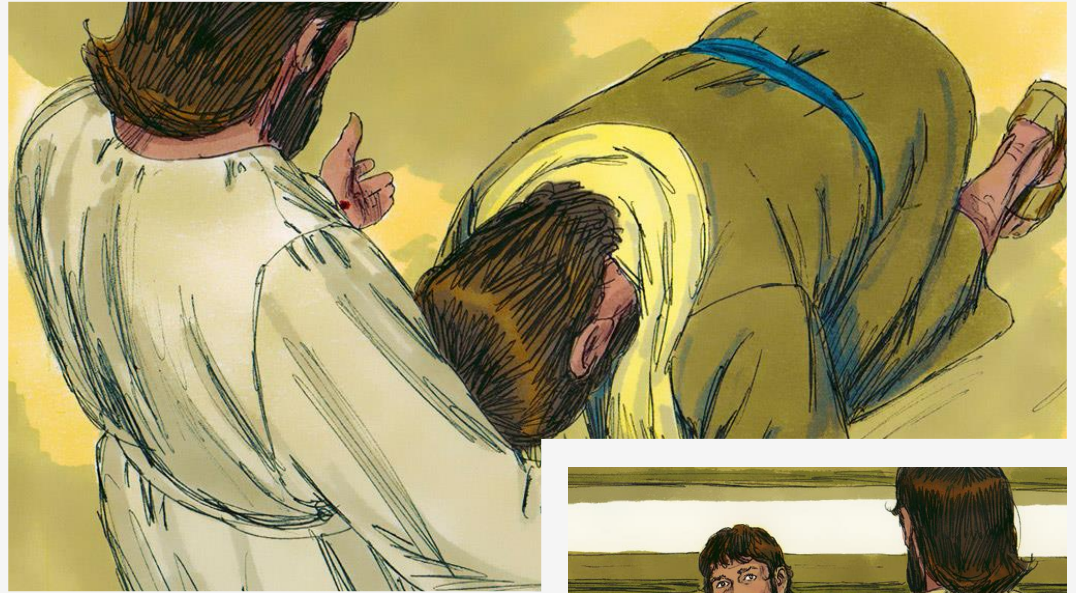
## Why did Thomas call Jesus "My Lord"?

Thomas understood Jesus as God and went on to proclaim the same with his life in India

He was a man of reason and God had given him enough reason to believe

## Why did Jesus reveal himself to Thomas?

Jesus, being God himself, understood the need for Thomas to see and then believe; which is why He revealed himself to Thomas





*Applying the biblical truths to our context*

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# *APPLICATION*

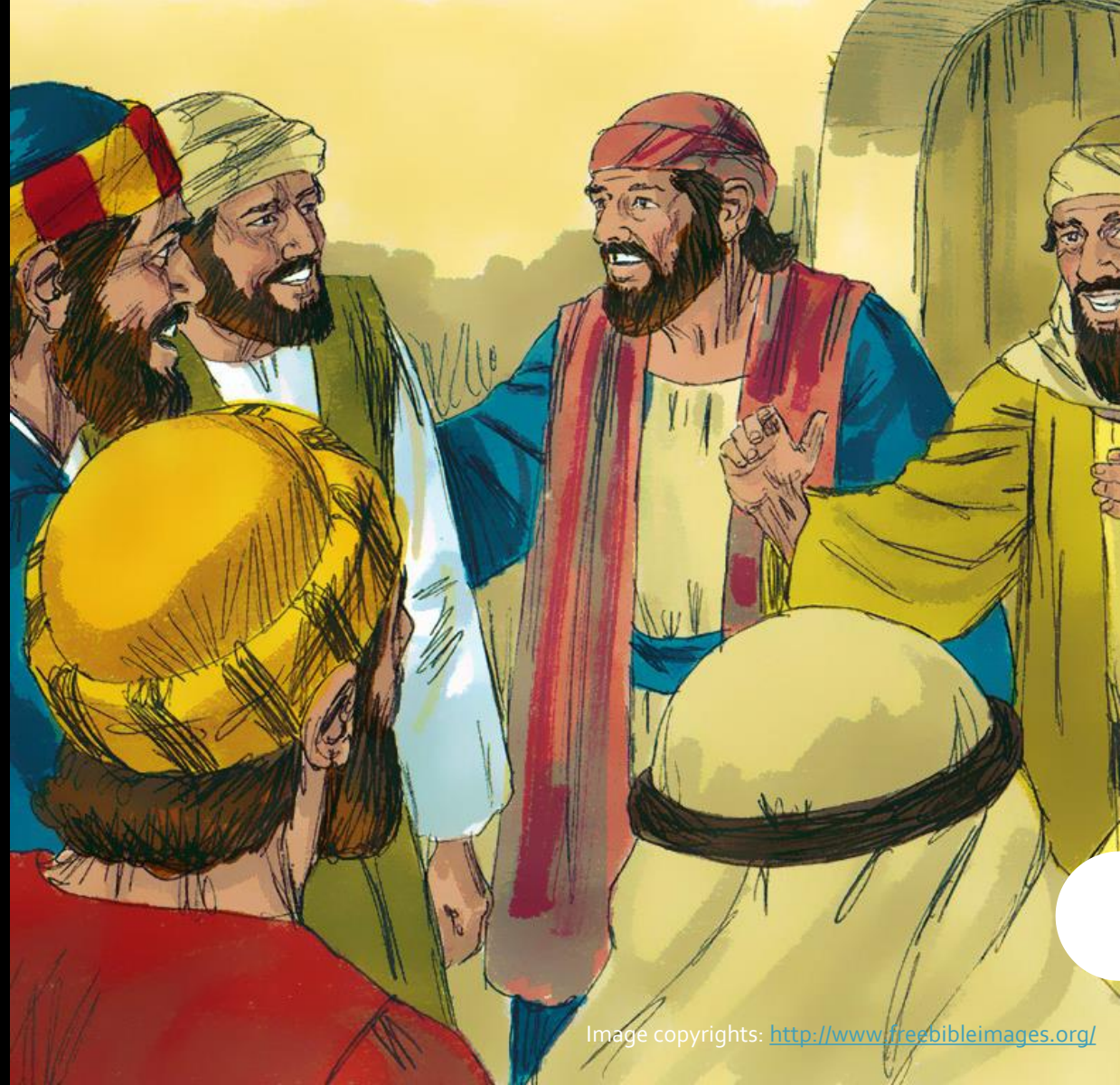


# *Application*

How often do we have **friends/**  
**relatives/ schoolmates**  
question our beliefs? Are we intrigued  
by them?

Seek out your answers from God to all  
queries and reason with Him to find  
an answer

Do not get disheartened if you are  
unable to answer them right away;  
pray that God provides you the  
answer in His time





# *Application*

Do we always need to provide answers to our **friends/ relatives/ schoolmates** when they ask questions?

Learn to discern and understand the intent of the person asking the question; are they sincerely seeking God like Thomas

Pray that God will provide you the necessary answer at the right time







## *Application*

Is it okay for me to **question/**  
**doubt God** during my daily life?

It is perfectly fair to have doubts as you navigate through life; it is necessary to seek out God sincerely even in such doubtful times

God responds to a sincere seeker like Thomas and many others mentioned in the Bible







*CAST ALL YOUR  
ANXIETY UPON HIM  
BECAUSE HE CARES  
FOR YOU*

*1 PETER 5: 7*