

EASTER

AT JOURNEY

Resurrection as Renaissance

Ed Noble, Lead Pastor
Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012

EASTER: This year think, RENAISSANCE!

- The STORY is of the ancient promise, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- The POINT is that WE can experience a different kind of life, an eternal kind, a fresh wind, change, renewal, “times of refreshing” ... a renaissance!
- The KEY: FAITH

JESUS AND THOMAS

1. God doesn't usually show up like we expect.

↳ So ... hold your predetermined categories loosely!

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples were saying to him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.”

John 20:24–26

2. Hanging around is a virtue!

↳ So ... get serious about seeking!

²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.” ²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you believed. Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.”

John 20:27–29

3. God gets you ... your pain, your reasons, your disappointments.

↳ So ... remember that it's O.K. to doubt, but don't make it a destination!

³⁰ Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 20:30–31

4. It finally comes down to a choice.

↳ So ... take a step of faith!