Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

## Seeing is believing?

*29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*
*– John 20:29*

1. **Unless I see- I will not believe. John 20:24-25.**

2. **Stop doubting and believe. John 20:26-29.**

3. **Believe and have life. John 20:30-31.**

## A. Examining the texts.

1. Read John 20:20:24-25. What do we learn about Thomas here? What were his demands when it comes to having evidence for the resurrection? Why did he need this do you think?

2. Read John 20:26-29. When did this happen? Do you have any thoughts about why the doors were locked? Why do you think Jesus said what he did?

3. Read John 20:26-29. How does Jesus speak into Thomas' demands? What does he provide for him/them? Where does Jesus say- blessing comes from?

4. Read John 20:30-31. Why does John record the signs that he does, in Johns' gospel? What is his purpose? What are the other signs Jesus performs in John (just read the headings): John 2:1-11, Jn 4:46-54, Jn 5:1-18, Jn 6:1-14, Jn 6:15-25, Jn 9:1-41, Jn 11:1-46? What do these signs- signpost?

## B. Meditation & application

5. What kept Thomas from believing initially? What did he need? What evidence is there for the resurrection to your knowledge?

6. How does Jesus speak to Thomas' doubts? Is there anything we can learn from his response to Thomas about how we deal with other peoples doubts?

7. Jesus says at one point- "stop doubting and believe." How can we facilitate that command in our lives?

8. In your own words; what is Johns purpose for writing it? What does it say about the goal of evangelism? If John is an evangelist and that is his purpose- what is the work of evangelism?

A Prayer: Heavenly Father- Thankyou for the witnesses that Thomas had, the witness that we have? Help us to see, to follow the signs where they point and move us to the kind of belief that leads to an abundant life. An abundant life in Jesus Name- amen.