

# RENEWAL

Group Guide:  
Easter

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## CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- RIDDLE: What is so fragile that saying its name breaks it?
  - Answer: Silence
- JOKE: Why is Cinderella bad at soccer?
  - Answer: Because she keeps running from the ball... that and her coach is a pumpkin.
- Discipleship Check-in

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## INTRODUCTION

Renewal. This is what someone experiences when they profess faith in Jesus Christ. In today's passage, we will see this moment happen in Thomas' life. He is often referred to as doubting Thomas, however, by the end of the passage, he will no longer be filled with doubt, but faith that leads to transformation. We are invited into this same experience of transformation and renewal, but first we have to recognize the doubt or fear that keeps us from believing.

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## OBSERVE EXAMINE THE TEXT FOR YOURSELF

READ: John 20:19-31

DISCUSS:

- What in this passage stands out to you?
- Are there any repeated phrases or words in the passage?

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## INTERPRET WHAT DO YOU THINK THE TEXT IS SAYING

DISCUSS:

- In verse 19 and 26, it mentions that the door to the disciples' room was locked. Why do you think the passage mentions this detail?
- Jesus says, "Peace be with you" three times. Why do you think he says this?
- Why do you think Thomas says he will never believe unless he sees the physical proof of Jesus' risen body?

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## APPLY HOW DOES WHAT THE AUTHOR IS SAYING APPLY TO YOUR LIFE

### DISCUSS:

- Like Thomas, how has doubt or disbelief led to stagnation in your own faith? How do we fight for faith when we are overcome with doubt?
- Thomas goes from unbelief to belief when he sees Jesus. Thomas has experienced renewal and transformation in this moment. He has gone from death to life. We know this because John 5:24 states, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life." Where in your life do you want to experience more renewal or death to life transformation?

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## PRAY

Pray for everyone who experienced this renewal at our Easter services by receiving Christ and for the people in our own lives who we want to take through the One2One.

Pray that you would experience transformation and renewal in your own lives this week.

### **Discipleship Check-In**

- Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?