



DGM Message Title: Feeling Froggy

Topic: God meets our doubts and anger with mercy and truth.

Message Summary: The Apostle Thomas struggled with doubt and anger. Being tough-minded and strong may give us resolve for our future mission, but if we let our anger and doubts control us they can keep us from enjoying all of the benefits of a relationship with our Lord and our God. Jesus is worthy of our trust and meets us at our weakness.

Scriptural References:

- **John 11:8 (NKJV)**
- **John 11:16 (NKJV)**
- **John 20:24-29 (NKJV)**

Key Points:

- Thomas scattered like all of the apostles did after Jesus was betrayed.
 - The most heartbreaking thing about betrayal is that it never comes from your enemies.
- Thomas took the longest to recover from the events surrounding the Good Friday.
 - Thomas (Twin in Hebrew) Didymus (Twin in Greek) wasn't weak, but likely was one of the strongest; tough-minded.
 - The worst battles you will ever fight will be with the person who looks exactly like you and will become you if the better part of you doesn't win!
- Thomas was having the internal battle, but the better part of him won.
- John 11:8, 16 (NKJV)
 - Thomas called the others to "man up." Thomas didn't flinch.
- John 20:24 tells us that Thomas wasn't with the others. Where was Thomas?
 - He was probably mad at God and angry at the situation.
- Thomas didn't miss seeing the Lord because of the painful event. He missed out because of his temperament.
 - When you let anger get the best of you it only brings out the worst in you!
 - "Being angry is human. Staying angry is foolish." – T.D. Jakes
- The Apostles were not weak-minded men. They didn't have a cookie cutter response to the events of Good Friday.
- As bad as we are sometimes, no sin is greater than God's mercy.
 - God's Math: 1 Cross + 3 Nails = 4 Given
- Thomas was so mad that he let his anger make choices for him.
 - Why do we keep dancing with the devil and wonder why we keep going through hell?

- Dr. Grier taught that God doesn't do things that always make sense to us.
 - God is smarter than us.
 - He does things His way, not our way.
- If you really believe God is God, then you should trust Him.
- It's awesome how many chances God gives us.
- But God waited until Thomas came back into fellowship.
 - Jesus stood in their midst as strong and brave as ever.
 - Jesus said, "Peace."
 - Jesus was saying that He wasn't mad at them.
 - God knows how to reach us right where we are.
- Jesus is speaking truthfully to Thomas as He always has and does.
 - "Do not be unbelieving, but believing," was Jesus' word to Thomas.
- Thomas knew that it was the Lord when he heard Him speaking. He didn't need to touch the wounds.
- It seems the deeper the doubt we carry, the deeper the revelation God gives us of who He is.
 - The greatest believers in history were all, at one time, great doubters.
- We need God, not just a prophet.
- Thomas was strengthened for his mission to evangelize India in the future by his encounter with Jesus.
- If you always have to feel God and you always have to see God, what does that say about your relationship with Him?
 - What does it say about the nature of a relationship if you don't trust a person's promises; you only trust that person to the extent you can watch and see them?
- There is a strong rebuke to Thomas in the encounter he has with the risen Jesus.
 - Jesus digs in a bit in verse 29b when He says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed."
- They didn't let their pain and anger drown out the inner voice.
 - Thomas' anger caused him to miss a whole week with the Lord.
 - Some of us have missed whole years.
- The issue in your life is not what has happened to you, but how you responded.
- You don't have to lose another minute if you let go of the anger now.