

### **THE FAITH WORD FOR APRIL 19, 2020**

The Gospel story for today is about the disciple Thomas and his questions and doubts. This story comes to us at a time when we might be questioning God, questioning His mercy, His healing and even His very existence. Thomas demands evidence to see, to touch, to prove. So if you question God, if you probe and debate and lament and wonder about your faith, you are an heir of the apostles, just as much as the most fervent of believers.

A quote from Martin Luther: "There is the man who has never doubted that God is, but who lives as though God were not; and there is the man who doubts whether God is but who lives as though He were. In the latter, the grace of God is at work."

If you are now lamenting and questioning God, God is at work in your life. If you are wondering what happened to your strong, unbending faith, then wrestle with God and God will restore the prize of faith to you.

A thought for today: When this is all over, I will never take for granted again, a coffee with a friend, praying in the park, going to social events, church services, full shelves at the grocery store, restaurants to dine in, or a simple handshake to say hello. I know that when this is over, the world will be different. I hope that it is a kinder, more thankful world, and closer to God.

Prayer: Dear Lord, restore your creation. Bring us healing and salvation. Love us now and forever. Amen