



COMMUNITY Leader's Guide | April 19th, 2026

CELEBRATIONS

What do you remember from the past week which led you to give thanks and praise?

CONNECTION

*When was there a time you learned about something "too late" and felt out of the loop or behind?
What happened?*

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-31

CONVERSATIONS

1. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, John says they were "**overjoyed**." Thomas wasn't there and responded with doubt. When you hear something amazing or unexpected (especially about faith/the miraculous) are you more like the disciples in the room or more like Thomas?
 - a. What do you think shapes whether we respond with belief or doubt?
2. Jesus didn't "fit" Thomas' idea of a Messiah. Have you ever felt like Jesus hasn't matched up with what you would expect or understand God to be like?
 - a. How has that impacted your faith?
3. Faith and science work together, not separately. What kind of evidence have you found that's been most compelling to you in personally building your faith?
 - a. Are there areas where you wish you had more evidence or clarity?
4. **Read v26-27.** Why do you think "waiting" often causes us to panic or get frustrated?

- a. Have you ever “confused a storm with a shipwreck” and felt like a specific doubt would ruin your faith?
 - b. A.J. Swoboda writes that **“To struggle with one’s faith is often the surest sign we actually have one.”** Where, if anywhere, has doubt deepened your faith?
5. Thomas remained in community even while he doubted. Where has community helped you to walk through a challenging time in your faith?
- a. What do you think makes a community a safe place for someone wrestling with doubt?
6. **Read v28.** How does Thomas' story of doubt and then kingdom impact (*taking the gospel the furthest of anyone!*) change how you think about your own doubt or questions or the doubts and questions of others?

SPIRITUAL FORMATION PRACTICES


1. **Press Into the Evidence** | This week, take one question or doubt you have about your faith and spend some time actually exploring it. Read an article, pick up a book, watch a Bible Project video, or talk to a trusted mentor or pastor about it. Don't let the question just sit — take one step toward engaging with it.
2. **Lean into Community** | Like Thomas, commit to staying connected this week even if faith feels hard. Reach out to someone in your Community Group, or a trusted mentor with a text, go for coffee, or share a prayer request. Be open and honest about what you're wrestling with, and allow community to be a place where you are seen and known.

RIDGE REMINDERS

A few reminders and opportunities coming up in the life of our church family:


Sunday Social | Thai Feast

 April 19 | Lower Auditorium

 Adults \$8 / Kids \$5

Chef Robbie and team are preparing something super special to kick off our first Social of the spring!

EQUIP Night | M.A.I.D. (Medical Assistance in Dying | A Christian Response)



 Sunday, April 19 | 7–9pm | Church Lobby


This will be an important and thoughtful evening as we engage this topic together. Registration is online.

Ridge Essentials Studies

Men's (1 Peter) & Women's (Women of the Bible) studies are starting **April 20th @7-8:30**—a great space to grow deeper in your faith and relationships.

 [Register online](#)


 **GROW Women's Gathering** |  Saturday, May 9 | 9:30–11:30am  Church Lobby

Join us for a morning filled with connection, worship, the Word, and a lot of fun!  [Register online](#)

Missions Meet Up

Saturday the 25th | 9:30–11:00am | Church lobby

Interested in global missions? Come explore how you can be part of what God is doing beyond our walls.

 [Register online](#)

RIDGE SERVES:

- **RIDGE HOSPITALITY TEAM** is in need of more hands and hearts to serve once a month at our Sunday Socials! Please reach out to Dayna dayna@ridgechurch.ca
- **RIDGE COFFEE CREWS** need more folks to help us serve Jesus on Sunday mornings! Please reach out to Dayna tracey@ridgechurch.ca
- **FOOD BANK ON WHEELS** (Non-perishables) & **COMMUNITY HUB** (Clothing) donation bins are located in both entrances.

SHARED COMMUNITY PRAYERS