



{INVITATIONS}

# HOPE

Psalm 16; Acts 2:14 & 2:23; John 20:19-31; 1Peter 1:3-9

## GETTING STARTED

Think of a time you were given a nickname or you gave someone else a nickname.

- Was it positive?
- Was it accurate?
- Did it describe you or who that person was?

If you had to describe yourself with just one word, what would it be?

## READ and REFLECT

Imagine a person you love deeply, who's also the anchor person in your life, dies. You have given up everything for this person, counting on his/her ability to get you through life and maybe even to success. The death and all the events leading up to his/her death were troubling. In your mind, this person is special. This person can never die. But then he/she did die.

- How would you react?
- Would you lose a sense of hope?

Read John 20:19-31 Where do you think Thomas was and why do you think it was difficult for him to believe what the disciples told him about Jesus?

Thomas wouldn't believe unless he got to see and touch the nail marks in Jesus' Hand. What are your thoughts about Thomas as you're reading this?

How is this event described in Luke 24: 36-45?

Read and compare Genesis 2: 7 to John 20:21-22 What are men being given?

- Old Testament?
- New Testament?
- What is Jesus telling His Disciples and how should this affect us today?

Psalm 16 is often called a Messianic Psalm because it is quoted in the New Testament as referring to the resurrection. How is this expressed in verse 9-11?

David was able to rejoice and rest in this promise, are you able to bring this alive in your own life?

## **ENGAGE and DISCUSS**

When it comes to our faith journey; is doubt a bad thing or can it be useful?

Thinking back you may recall a time when you've experienced doubt or you may be experiencing it now.

- How did you, or are you handling this doubt?
- What was the outcome or what are you hoping will be the outcome?

Thomas is known as Doubting Thomas; do you feel this is an accurate nick name for describing his journey and who he was? Please explain

## **NEXT STEPS**

Find a quiet place and think about who you've been told you are and who you believe you are – Then read John 20: 30-31 paying extra attention to verse 31. Pray that God will bring you peace and belief in who He says you are.