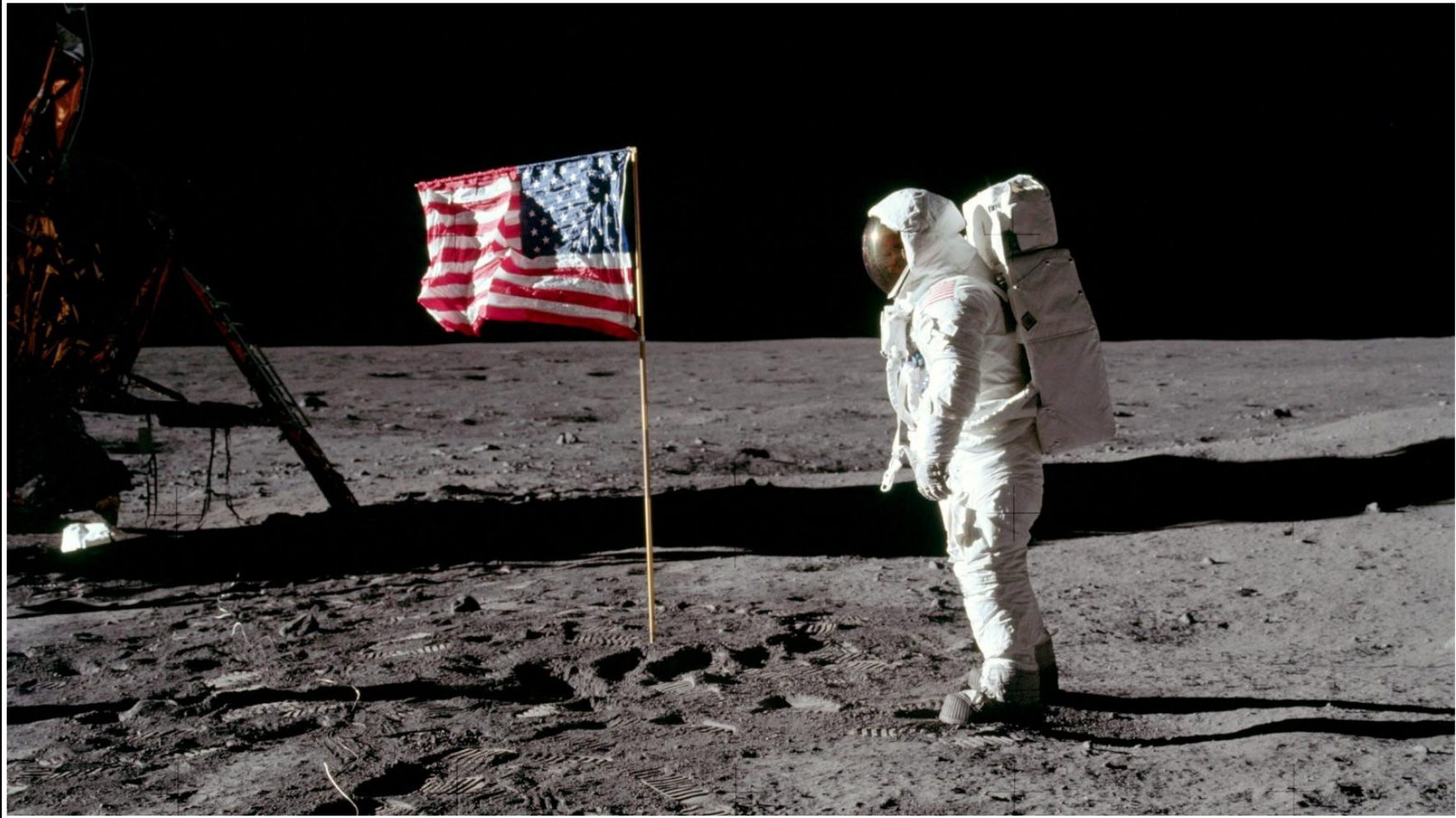


WELCOME!

Friday Men's Breakfast

November 20, 2020

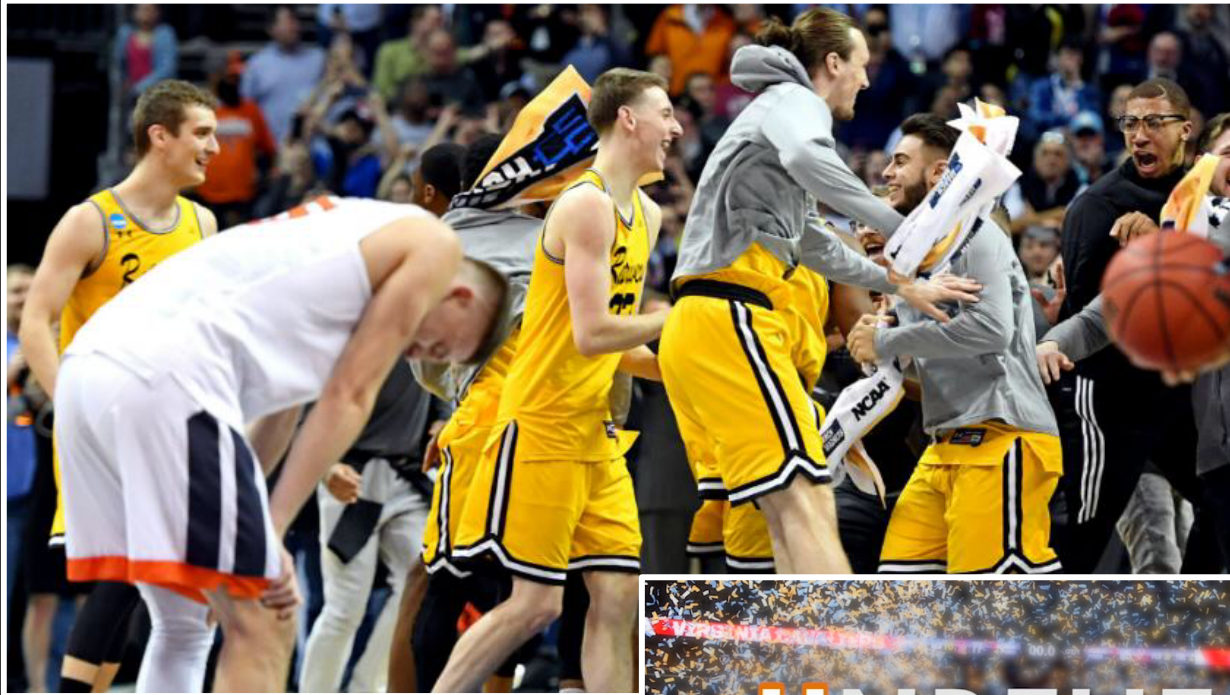
Do you believe it?!



Do you believe it?!



Do you believe it?!



Follow Me: Lessons from the Lives of the Disciples

#11 – Thomas: “Do Not Disbelieve, but Believe.”
John 20:24-29

Friday Men's Breakfast
November 20, 2020

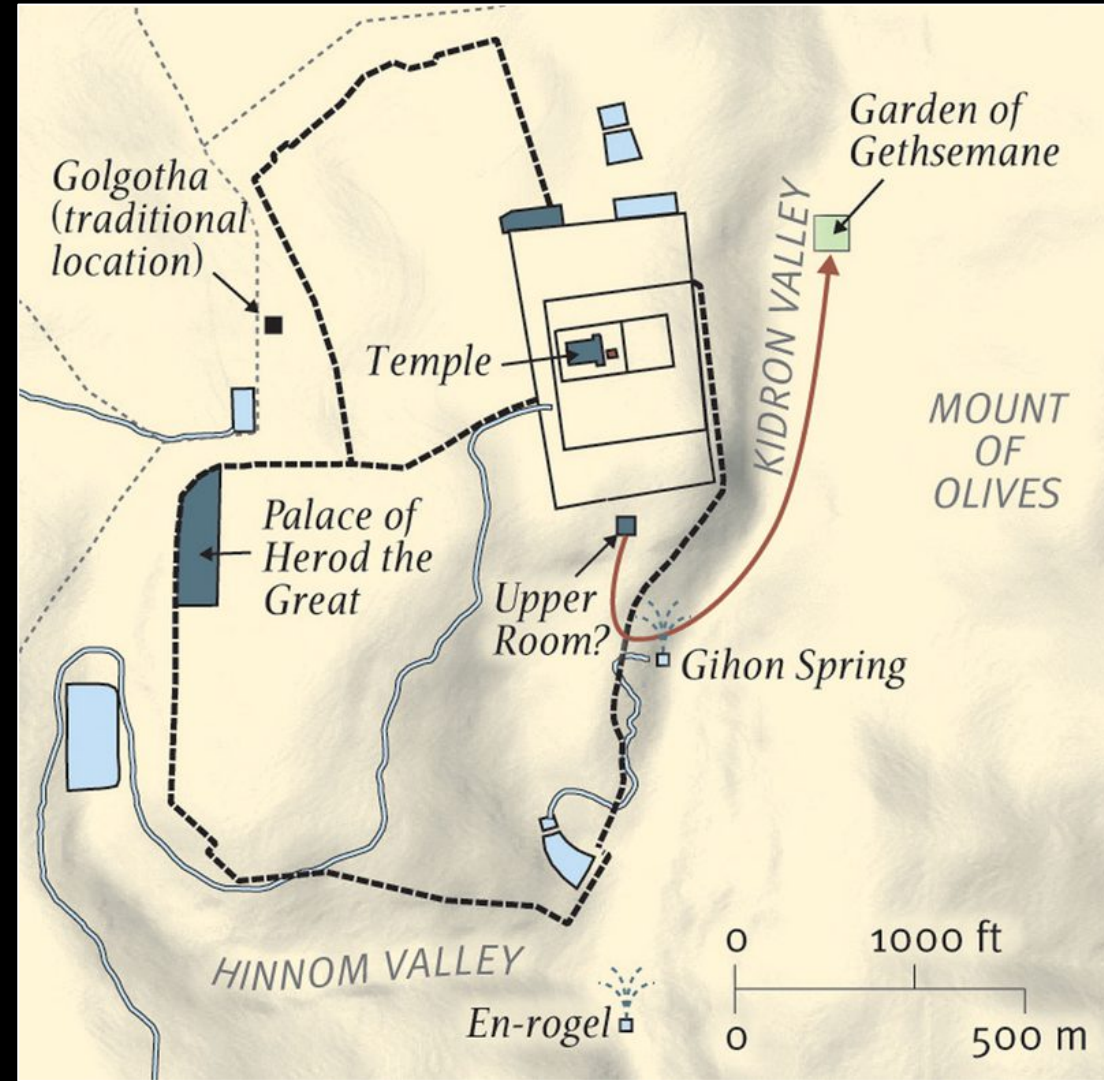
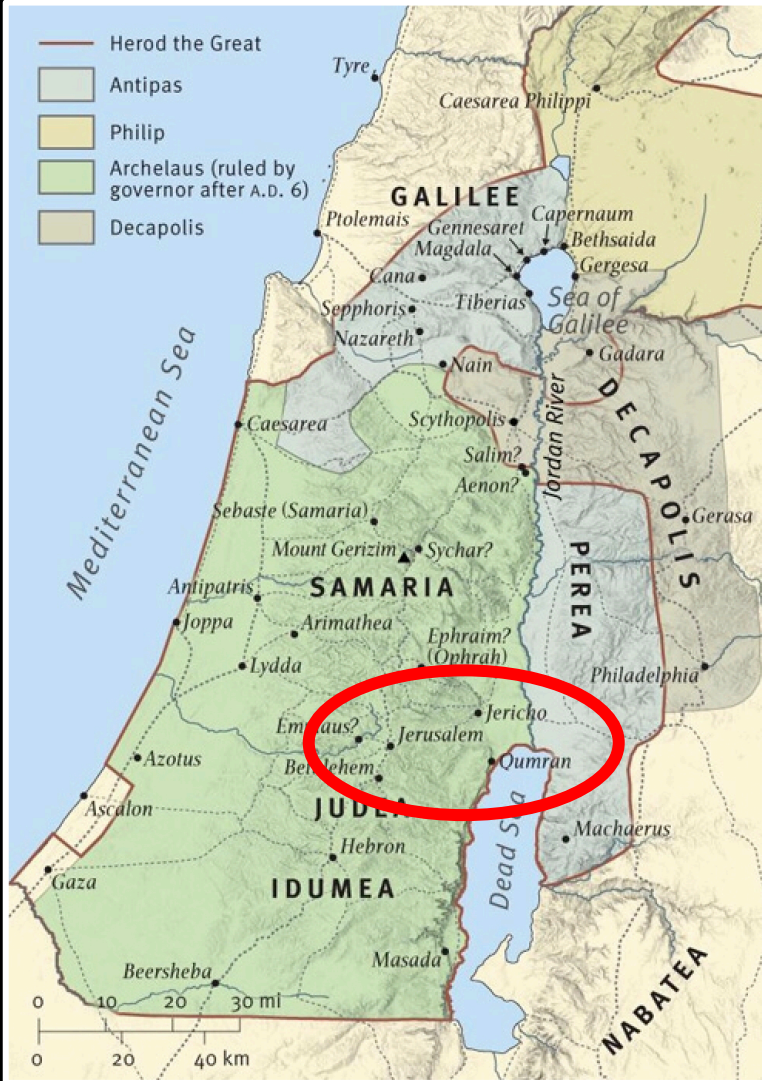
Thesis for our Semester

Jesus uses *ordinary* men to accomplish His *extraordinary* mission.

A “disciple” is called to ...

- 1)... *faith* in Jesus Christ.
- 2)... *follow* after Jesus Christ and obey Him.
- 3)... *fulfill* the mission of Jesus Christ and tell others about Him.
- 4)... *fellowship* in the family of Jesus Christ.

Context for John 20:24-29



John 20:24-29

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked ...

John 20:24-29

... Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



***The Incredulity of St. Thomas* by Caravaggio (c. 1601-1602)**

Thomas (aka Didymus or “The Twin”)

John 11:16

So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

John 14:5

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

John 20:24-29

1) Doubt is natural (20:24-25).

John 4:48

So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders ***you will not believe.***”

John 20:24-29

1) Doubt is natural (20:24-25).

Mark 9:22b-24

“... But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “‘If you can’! All things are possible for one who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, ***“I believe; help my unbelief!”***

John 20:24-29

2) Belief is supernatural (20:26-29).

John 20:24-29

“Thomas then uttered one of the most profound declarations of saving faith in Scripture. For a Jew to call another human being “my Lord and my God” was blasphemy under normal circumstances ... Yet that is precisely who Thomas believed Jesus was. It is also who John presented Jesus as being throughout this Gospel. Both titles were titles of deity in the Old Testament. Thomas had come to believe that Jesus was his lord in a fuller sense than before, and he now believed that Jesus was fully God.”

- Tom Constable

John 20:24-29

2) Belief is supernatural (20:26-29).

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and *the Word was God*.

John 20:28

Thomas answered him, *“My Lord and my God!”*

John 20:24-29

“The growth of belief depicted in the Gospel of John thus moves from an initial acceptance on the testimony of another to a personal knowledge marked by loyalty, service, and worship; from assumption of the historicity and integrity of Jesus to a personal trust in Him; from an outward profession to an inward reality; from attending to His teachings to acknowledging His lordship over life.”

- **Merrill C. Tenney**

“Topics from the Gospel of John”

John 20:24-29 - Application

Be honest with your doubt and humble in your belief.

Hebrews 11:1, 6

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen ... And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God ***must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.***

John 20:24-29 - Application

“If God has done what you think he should do, trust him. If God doesn't do what you think he should do, trust him. If you pray and believe God for a miracle and he does it, trust him. If your worst nightmare comes true, believe he is sovereign. Believe he is good.”

- **Craig Groeschel**
**The Christian Atheist: Believing in God
but Living as if He Doesn't Exist**

John 20:24-29 - Application

Be honest with your doubt and humble in your belief.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. **Do you believe this?**”

John 20:24-29 - Application

Be honest with your doubt and humble in your belief.

John 20:30-31

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written **so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**

John 20:24-29 - Do you believe it?!

- 1) Doubt is natural (20:24-25).
- 2) Belief is supernatural (20:26-29).

*Be honest with your doubt
and humble in your belief.*

Thesis for our Semester

Jesus uses *ordinary* men to accomplish His *extraordinary* mission.

Next Week: *Thanksgiving Break! (No meeting)*

In Two Weeks:

Peter, Part 3: “Feed My Sheep ... Follow Me!”
(*John 21:15-23*)

Discussion Questions

- 1) What are your biggest doubts in your relationship with Jesus?**
- 2) How has God strengthened your faith in times of doubt?**

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