



April 12th Rev. Hugh M. Barlett

Jonah 1:1–6 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” ³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

How do you answer the call?

Why do you say “No”, when God says “Go”

Where do you go, when God says “No”

Disobedience flows from personal rejection

I see things differently

I want things to go a certain way

I am not willing to adjust my way

Disobedience grows in practical rebellion

Deceitfulness of sin blinds us

Selfish plans bind us

God’s gracious reach exceeds our running

Does God have concern for the wider world or just personal piety and the matters of the church? Do you sense that God is the Lord of all the world?

Does God have the right to tell you what to do? Do we recognize God’s authority? Do we see the clarity of God’s commands and calling?

How does obedience fit into the Christian life? What motivates to obey God?

When we run from God, how do we feel?

How does God’s grace turn us around?



April 5th Rev. Hugh M. Barlett

John 20:24–29 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. **25** 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.”

26 Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” **27** 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.” **28** Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” **29** Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Christ lives to give us life

Opens our lives to His peace

Overcomes our doubts with his presence

Gives life to anyone, anywhere, anytime

Where is our assurance of the resurrection?

- **His appearances captivate us**
- **His Holy Spirit changes lives**
- **His Church changes history**
- **His Living Word interprets & inspires**
- **His gift matches longings, meets needs**

How does Thomas express His faith? How did express faith in your life? How did your articulate it?

Can you imagine why Thomas doubted?

The word “peace” has many dimensions in the scripture. Romans 5:1=peace with God; Galatians 5 fruit of the Spirit =”peace”; Philippians 4= “peace of God will guard your hearts”; Micah 5 make war no more = international peace. Describe the gift of peace that you have received from Christ?

How do we live by faith and not by sight today in our lives?