

"Conviction"

Don't Try This At Home Series

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1 Corinthians 15:17: "And if Christ as not been raised, your faith is FUTILE and you are STILL IN YOUR SINS.

1 Peter 1:3, "He has given us <u>NEW BIRTH into a LIVING HOPE</u> through the <u>RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD."</u>

James 2:19, "You believe there is one God. Good! Even the **DEMONS** believe that, and **SHUDDER**."

3 different kinds of believers:

- 1) CASUAL believers
- 2) **CONVENIENT** believers
- 3) **COMMITTED** believers

Mark 8:34, "If anyone would come after me, he must DENY HIMSELF and take up HIS CROSS and FOLLOW ME."

Which of the 3 kinds of believers are you?

So how do we go from being a Casual or Convenient believer to be a Committed believer?

- 1) For many of us, it starts with **DOUBTS**.
 - "We have seen him!" but Thomas said, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will **NOT BELIEVE**." John 20:25
- 2) God will often give us a **DISCOVERY**.
 - "A week later, Jesus' disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came & stood among them" John 20:26
 - Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. See my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. STOP DOUBTING AND BELIEVE." John 20:27
- 3) To go from Casual or Convenient believer, to a Committed believer is to create **CONVICTION**.
 - Great faith often starts with honest <u>DOUBTS</u>, followed by God revealing <u>DISCOVERIES</u>, followed by true <u>CONVICTION</u> that can't be shaken.