

Text: John 20:24-31

Sermon Notes:

In this text we will look at three people: Thomas; Jesus and John.

In verses 24 -25a – We see Thomas skipping the gathering of the saints, which had consequences

1. Thomas gave an ultimatum: v25b

Thomas needed the same proof as the other disciples

Thomas was as loyal to Jesus as the others were.

John 11:16 - ¹⁶ Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

What could help him have faith?

2. Jesus gives a promise. v26-29

Sunday comes again, this time however Thomas is with the other disciples.

When he sees Jesus Thomas says, "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas recognises the deity of Jesus and declares him as his Lord.

Jesus response to this confession is one of blessing, given to people like us who believe without seeing.

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Thomas gave an ultimatum but Jesus instead issues a promise and this promise leads us the purpose of this book.

3. John gave a gospel. v30-31

How is this verse related to what has just happened?

Thomas has come to believe and John wrote this gospel so that others would believe and receive life in the name of Jesus.

This whole gospel is written so that people reading about the ultimatum of Thomas, would hear the promise of Jesus and understand the gospel of John.

What is that gospel or good news?

John 3:16-18 - ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son

The gospel is:

- God
- Man
- Christ
- Our Response

1 Peter 5:6,7 - ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Appendix

<https://overviewbible.com/one-another-infographic/>

“One another” is two words in English, but it’s only one word in Greek: ἀλλήλων (*ah-LAY-loan*). It’s used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses. 47 of those verses give instructions to the church, and 60% of those instructions come from Paul.

When you look at these verses, a few more common themes show up.

Unity. One third of the one-another commands deal with the unity of the church.

1. Be at peace with one another ([Mk 9:50](#))
2. Don’t grumble among one another ([Jn 6:43](#))
3. Be of the same mind with one another ([Ro 12:16](#), [15:5](#))
4. Accept one another ([Ro 15:7](#))
5. Wait for one another before beginning the Eucharist ([1 Co 11:33](#))
6. Don’t bite, devour, and consume one another—**seriously, guys, don’t eat each other** ([Ga 5:15](#))
7. Don’t boastfully challenge or envy one another ([Ga 5:26](#)).
8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another ([Ep 4:2](#))
9. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another ([Ep 4:32](#))
10. Bear with and forgive one another ([Co 3:13](#))
11. Seek good for one another, and don’t repay evil for evil ([1 Th 5:15](#))
12. Don’t complain against one another ([Jas 4:11](#), [5:9](#))
13. Confess sins to one another ([Jas 5:16](#))

Love. One third of them instruct Christians to love one another.

1. Love one another ([Jn 13:34](#), [15:12](#), [17](#); [Ro 13:8](#); [1 Th 3:12](#), [4:9](#); [1 Pe 1:22](#); [1 Jn 3:11](#), [4:7](#), [11](#); [2 Jn 5](#))
2. Through love, serve one another ([Ga 5:13](#))
3. Tolerate one another in love ([Ep 4:2](#))
4. Greet one another with a kiss of love ([1 Pe 5:14](#))
5. Be devoted to one another in love ([Ro 12:10](#))

Humility. About 15% stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.

1. Give preference to one another in honor ([Ro 12:10](#))
2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves ([Php 2:3](#))
3. Serve one another ([Ga 5:13](#))
4. Wash one another’s feet ([Jn 13:14](#))
5. Don’t be haughty; be of the same mind ([Ro 12:16](#))
6. Be subject to one another ([Ep 5:21](#))
7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another ([1 Pe 5:5](#))

Here’s the rest:

1. Do not judge one another, and don’t put a stumbling block in a brother’s way ([Ro 14:13](#))
2. Greet one another with a kiss ([Ro 16:16](#); [1 Co 16:20](#); [2 Co 13:12](#))
3. Husbands and wives: don’t deprive one another of physical intimacy ([1 Co 7:5](#))
4. Bear one another’s burdens ([Ga 6:2](#))
5. Speak truth to one another ([Ep 4:25](#))
6. Don’t lie to one another ([Co 3:9](#))
7. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection ([1 Th 4:18](#))
8. Encourage and build up one another ([1 Th 5:11](#))
9. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds ([He 10:24](#))
10. Pray for one another ([Jas 5:16](#))
11. Be hospitable to one another ([1 Pe 4:9](#))

Of course, Jesus and the apostles give many more instructions to the church; these “one another” passages are a good start, though.

Also: make sure you read these in context! These commands come from Jesus, Peter, John, Paul, and James, and they're scattered across the New Testament. Don't just stop at this list: dig into these passages to see what the author was talking about.