

Prayer for Illumination

Risen Jesus! You are the Word of Life; our inheritance; our peace! We believe, help our unbelief. Amen

Psalm 16 *Rest Assured!*

Keep me safe, my God, for in You I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, “You are my LORD; apart from You I have no good thing”.

I say of the holy people who are in the land, “They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight”. Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

LORD, You alone are my portion and cup; You make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because You will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will You let Your faithful one see decay.

You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand. Amen

John 20:19-20, 24-29 *See and Feel*

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, **“Peace be with you!”**

After Jesus said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But Thomas said to them, “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”.

A week later Jesus’ disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, **“Peace be with you!”**

Then 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”.

Thomas said to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Then Jesus told him, **“Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed”.** Amen

I Peter 1:3-4, 8-9 *A Living Hope*

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the Christ! In His great mercy, God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus the Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

Though you have not seen Jesus, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Amen